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WALBRAN'S GUIDE
TO
RIPON, FOUNTAINS ABBEY,
AND
Places of interest in the vicinity.



gift of

Mrs. Nancy Thomas



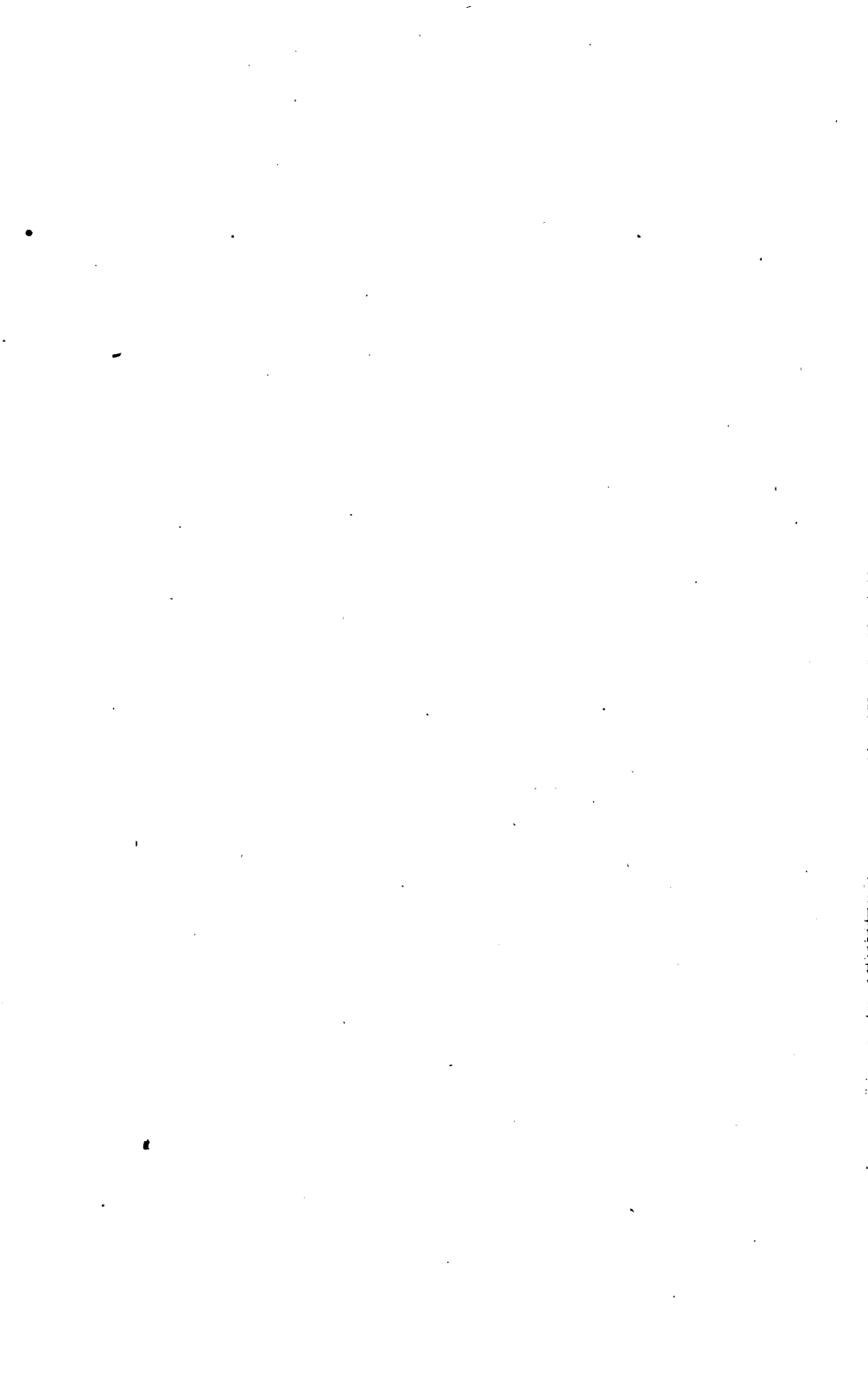
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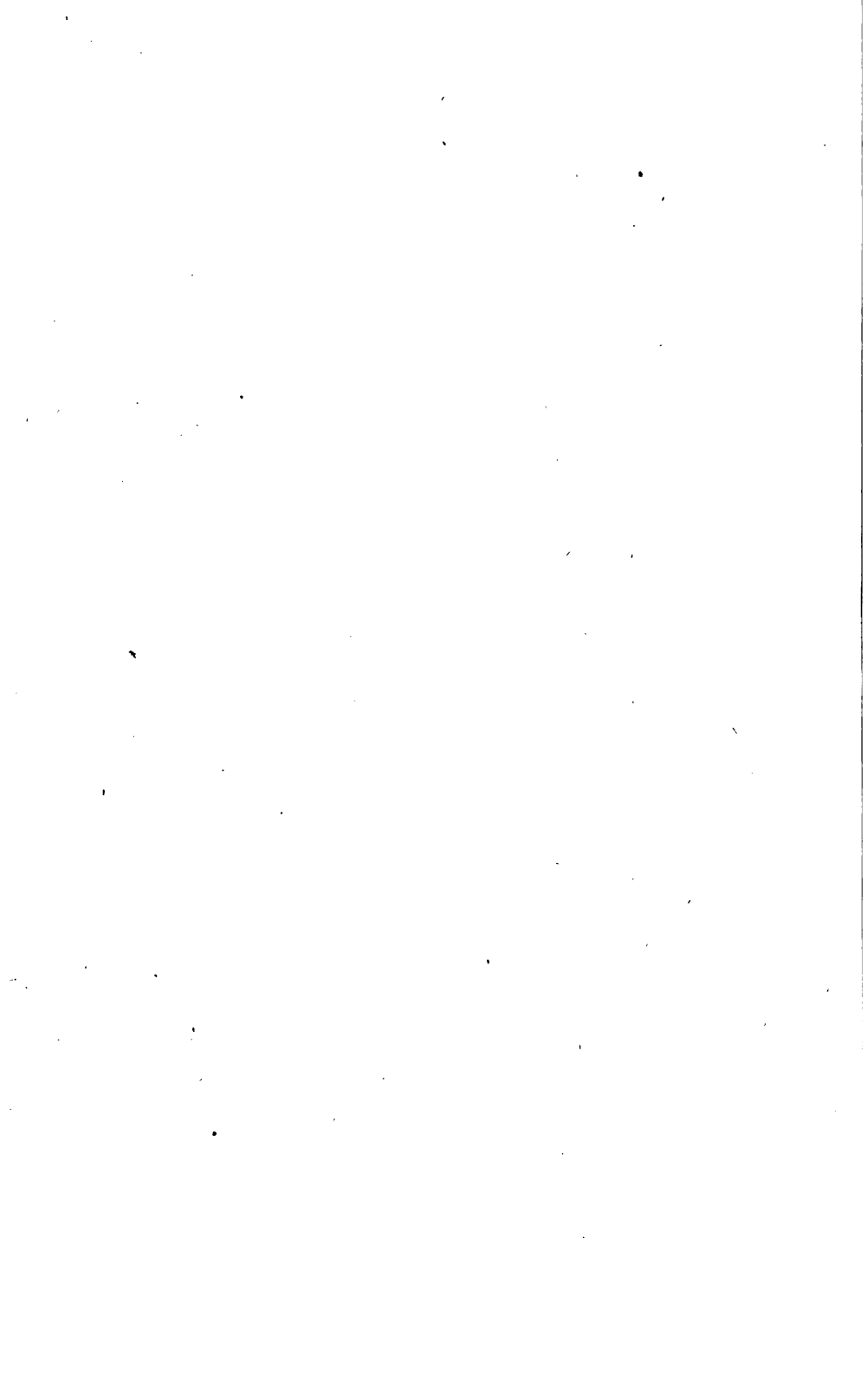






This is a detailed map of the North Waller Twp. area. The map shows various towns and geographical features. Key labels include 'Woburn', 'E. H.', 'Holliston', 'Wilton', 'Salem Co.', 'Cicestown', 'Dover', 'Thompson', 'Ottum', 'Ward', 'Wool', and 'Salem'. The map also shows 'North Waller Twp.' and 'South Waller Twp.'.











RIPON CATHEDRAL. SOUTH-EAST VIEW.

A GUIDE
TO
RIPON, FOUNTAINS ABBEY,
HARROGATE, BOLTON PRIORY,
AND
Several places of interest in their vicinity.

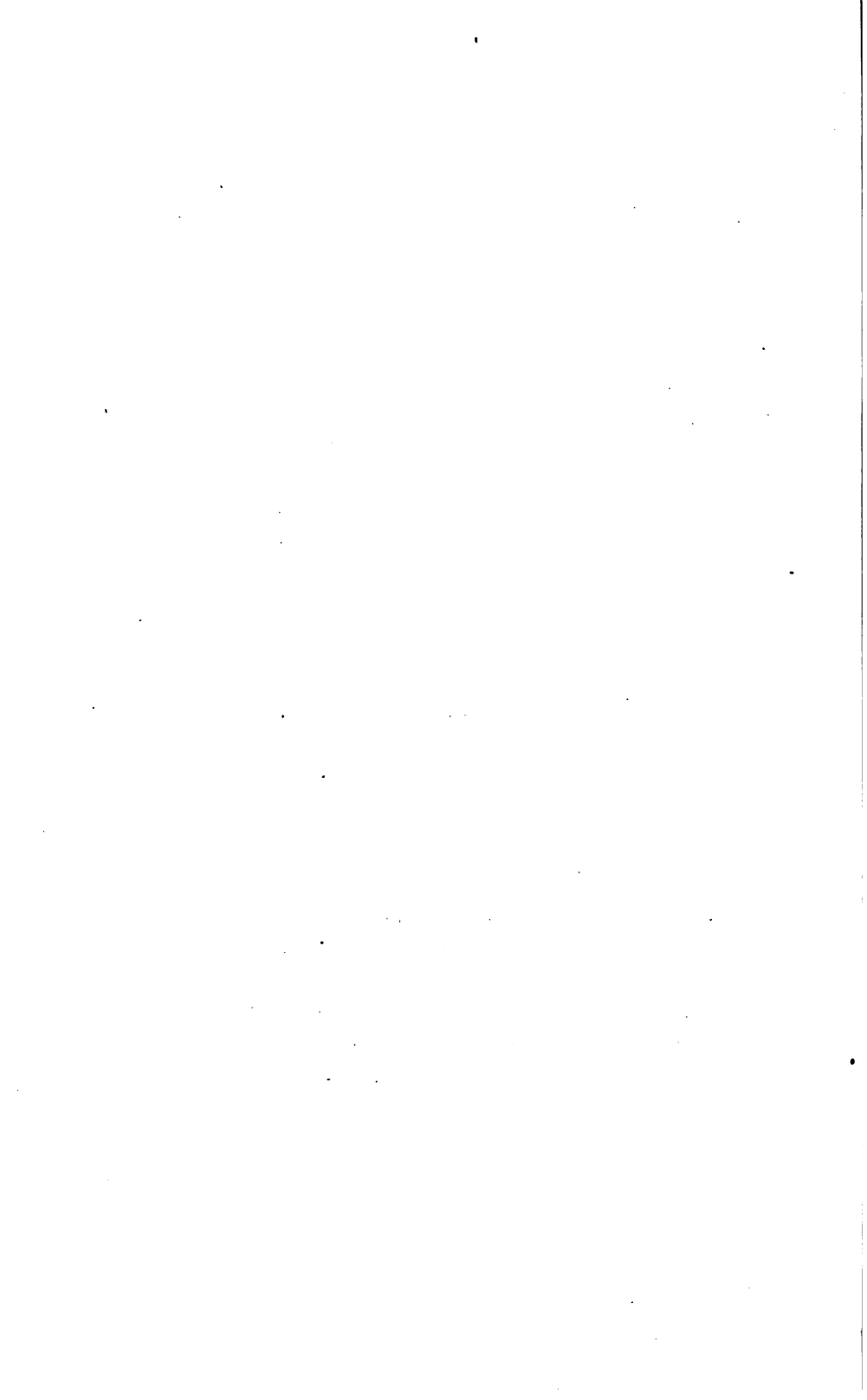
BY
JOHN RICHARD WALBRAN, F.S.A.,
Corresponding Member of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland ; Honorary Member
of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle-on-Tyne ; and Local
Secretary of the Archæological Institute of
Great Britain and Ireland.

Twelfth Edition.

REVISED BY THE REV. CANON RAINE, M.A., AND
MR. WILLIAM FOWLER STEPHENSON.

RIPON :
PRINTED & PUBLISHED BY A. JOHNSON & CO., MARKET-PLACE ;
SIMPKIN, MARSHALL, AND CO., STATIONERS' HALL COURT, LONDON.

1875.



PUBLISHER'S PREFACE.

TWENTY years have elapsed since the late MR. JOHN RICHARD WALBRAN issued the sixth edition of this "Guide Book," one of which author and publisher were alike proud. It was chiefly owing to the fact that Mr. Walbran took such an interest in this work that the publisher thought a "Memorial Edition" would be a fitting tribute to his memory, and be favourably received by his friends and admirers.

In the revision of this Guide great care has been exercised to preserve the original text as far as possible; much interesting matter, culled from the earlier editions, has been added; and a Memoir has been contributed by MR. EDWARD PEACOCK, F.S.A., of Bottesford Manor, whose personal knowledge and appreciation of the late author's talents render him well fitted to undertake such a task.

In carrying out this work the publisher has been assisted and encouraged by gentlemen, ably qualified to bring the matter to a successful issue,—to whom he now wishes to make his public acknowledgments.

First, then, to the REV. CANON RAINE, M.A., and to the late MR. W. FOWLER STEPHENSON, whose names appear on the title page, his grateful thanks

are specially due. The former has revised all the sheets relating to Ripon and Fountains Abbey; the latter, whilst affording assistance in correcting these sheets, revised that part relating to places in the vicinity. Since his death, the REV JOSEPH THOMAS FOWLER, F.S.A., has kindly afforded every assistance in his power; and to him the publisher is indebted for the interesting account of the Cathedral Library, which will be found in the appendix.

To MR. FAIRLESS BARBER, F.S.A., for his article on the plan of Fountains Abbey; to MR. WILLIAM GRAINGE, for his revision and correction of the Harrogate sheet; to the REV. WILLIAM COLLINGS LUKIS, F.S.A., for his contribution on Wath, and his article on the Maison de Dieu Chapel at Ripon, as well as for other timely assistance; and last in the compilation of the work, though not least in importance, to MR. EDWARD PEACOCK, F.S.A., for the faithful and painstaking Memoir, which accompanies this work, the publisher tenders his cordial thanks.

In illustrating the various objects of interest mentioned in the following pages, the publisher has been enabled, by the generous assistance of friends, to make the work more valuable and attractive by the addition of several plans and views. His best thanks are therefore due to MR. JOHN MURRAY, for the West Front and S.E. Views of Ripon Cathedral; to MR. JOHN PARKER, for the plans and view of Markenfield Hall; to the REV. WILLIAM COLLINGS

LUKIS, F.S.A., for the plans of Maison de Dieu Chapel; to MR. FAIRLESS BARBER, for the Plan of the Old Abbey Site; and to REV. CANON RAINE for the Fountains Seal.

The publisher now takes leave of a work which has occupied his leisure time for a few years past, in the hope that it will impress the reader with a higher appreciation of Mr. Walbran's works, and be the humble means of keeping alive the memory of one, who, with more encouragement in early life, would have made a greater name in the archæological and literary world, and have left deeper "footprints on the sands of time."

W. H.

Ripon, April, 1876.



PREFACE TO THE FIRST EDITION.

For some years past, the Publisher of this work has been accustomed to provide for the Visitors to Ripon and Harrogate, a Guide to the places of interest in their neighbourhood. Though, from the extraordinary literary disadvantages to which this portion of the country is doomed, it has hitherto been but a catalogue of bare topographical facts, unanimated by reflection, and compiled without reference to the state of general literature, it has diffused information not generally known, and was kindly received in the spirit in which it was given.

The period having now arrived when its periodical supply is exhausted, I have been tempted by the occasion, though at much personal inconvenience, to offer an entirely new and original work, that may the better meet the spirit of enquiry that is extending swiftly to all classes of society. And though, as my countryman Bishop Earle observed, "I do not love all things, as Dutchmen do cheese, the better for being mouldy and worm-eaten;" yet, being persuaded of the great benefits that result from an acquaintance with Archæological literature—the only solid foundation of our historical and topographical enquiries, as well as the faithful index of our valuable institutions—I have endeavoured to combine, with the ordinary routine of a guide, such historical memoranda as my scanty limits would allow; as well as to indicate the very important light which many of our local objects throw on discussions that are obtaining increasing attention—particularly on the progress of architectural design and construction. It is thus that I would explain to the general reader, the introduction of those biographical particulars of St. Wilfrid, which seem to be of importance in the consideration of Saxon architecture: and the preliminary observations on the Cathedral of Ripon, the very founder of which has been hitherto forgotten, and its history most wretchedly garbled and misunderstood.

This design has not, however, been accomplished without much difficulty. There is no County History on whose fundamental statements I might rely; no tolerable local history which I could resort to and abridge; nor have I enjoyed a digest of those local records, whose examination would occupy the attention of years; nor the collections of those, who, with a fate too common, have laboured only that other men might enter into their labours.

Lastly: since these pages have been collected at an outlay of trouble and expense much greater than is usually expended on a work of this nature and pretension, and abstracted from incipient collections—of which, if God grant me health and opportunity, I intend to make more comprehensive use in my projected "History of the Wapentake of Claro and Liberty of Ripon," I may not be deemed unreasonable, if I desire those, who may have the inclination or necessity to republish such original facts as I have recorded, to acknowledge the source from whence they are derived; and—remembering that much information which I have pointed out on these subjects, has been seized by ignorant adventurers, in the sordid spirit of mercantile gain—to observe that, on a recurrence of their attentions, I shall avail myself of the legal remonstrances provided for those "whose organs of acquisitiveness" are too largely developed.

J. R. WALBRAN.

*Fall Croft, Ripon,
October 15th, 1844.*

GENERAL INDEX.

AILCY HILL	Page 6	FOUNTAINS ABBEY—Continued.	Page
ALDFIELD SPA	134	Close and Park	100
ALDBOROUGH	172-174	Conventual Church	104
BARDEN TOWER AND CHAPEL	201	Court House (now Museum)	124
BLOIS HALL, Earthworks at	3	Coins (discovery of)	124
BOROUGHBRIDGE	9, 169	Dissolution of	98
BRIMHAM ROCKS	154-161	Dormitory	103
BOLTON PRIORY	188	Echo	134
Barn	203	Frazer House	123
Bridge and Chapel	190	Gardrobes	104
Church Yard	199	Gatehouse	101
Conventual Church	191	Grounds, the	84-89
Holm Terrace	203	Historical Notice of	90-101
Legend about	189, 200	Hospitium	102
Strid	200	Infirmary	103
Survey of	192	Kitchen	126
The Woods	199	Library	122
BOLTON HALL	190	Lady Chapel	117
CASTLE DYKES	5, 146	Liberty of	124
EMBSAY PRIORY	189	Mill	100
FOUNTAINS ABBEY	90	Muniment Room	124
List of Abbats	93	Nave	105
Abbat's House	128-132	Offices	100
Acoustic Pottery	107	Orchards	100
Base Court	127	Owners of	99
Brewhouse	123	Pavements	116-132
Bridge	101	Plan of	114
Buttery	126	Prisons	127
Cellar	123	Ponds	100
Cemetery	133	Relics, List of	125
Chapter House	120-122	Refectory	126
Choir	114	Scriptorium	122
Cloister	103, 208-210	Tower	113
Cloister Court	119	Transepts	108-113
		Yew Trees	101
		FOUNTAINS HALL	102
		HACKFALL	151-153
		HALIKELD	4
		HOW HILL AND CHAPEL	87
		HUTTON, Celtic Temples and Barrows at	3

	Page	RIPON—Continued.	Page
HARROGATE	175	Plague at	10, 13
Baths	185	Population	81
Churches and Chapels	177, 178	Public Buildings & Institutions	77-81
Harlow Carr and Tower	184	Races	19
Hospital	186	Sanctuary	30
Hotels	186	School, Grammar	79
Origin of	176	" National	80
Recreation, Balls, &c.	186	Scientific Society	5, 6
Wells, Analyses of	187	See of	26, 49, 69
—Cheltenham	183	Topographical Survey	20
—Crown	182	Trinity Church	76
—Montellier	184	Water Works	81
—Starbeck	183	Wakeman	11, 17
—Sulphur	181		
—Sweet	180		
—Tewit	179		
KIRBY HILL	171	RIPON CATHEDRAL, Historical	
KNARESBROUGH FOREST	175, 190	Notice of	35-50
LAVER, RIVER	20, 82	Survey of	51-75
LINDRICK	4	Chapel of Our Lady	32-4
MARKENFIELD HALL	137	Chantry Chapels	41
Tombs	61	Choir	68-72
Arms	139	Chapter House and Vestry	72
NEWBY HALL	162	Crypt, formerly the Bone	
" CHURCH	164-168	House	74
PUBLISHER'S PREFACE	iii-v	Library	73, 206-208
ROBIN HOOD, his Well	89, 100	Nave	39, 54, 57-59, 205
ROMAN RIGG	5	Prebends	40
RIPON, Abbey of	22-31	Restorations of	45-48
Bishop of	49	St. Wilfrid's Needle	64-68
Chapels, Dissenting	79	Transept	55, 60-63
Roman Catholic	79	West Front	52-54
College of Vicars	75		
College, projected	44	RISING OF THE NORTH	11
Common	2, 19, 76	SKELL, RIVER	10, 20, 84, 128
Corporation, Municipal	11, 14, 17	STUDLEY ROYAL	82
Commercial Position	18	STUDLEY CHURCH	137-144
Court House	75	TANFIELD	147-150
Diocese	49	Church	148
Dispensary	81	Marmion Tombs	148
Episcopal Palace	145	THORNBOROUGH	150
Fairs and Markets	15-19	Earthworks at	3, 150
Gas Works	81	WALBRAN, J. R., Memoir of	xi
Geology of	20	WATLING STREET	5
Hospitals	77-78	WHARFE AND WHARFEDALE	200
Historical Introduction	1-16	WHITE DOE OF RYLSTONE	199
Liberty of	7, 16	WILFRID, ST.	5, 22, 29, 43
Local Government	16-18	Shrine of	42
Manor	8	Burnyng Iron	43
Manufactures	9, 10, 18	Pokestone of	44
Market-place and Cross	21	YORE, RIVER	20, 151, 169, 172
Mechanics' Institution	80		
Palace and Park of Arch- bishop of York	8, 75		

ILLUSTRATIONS.

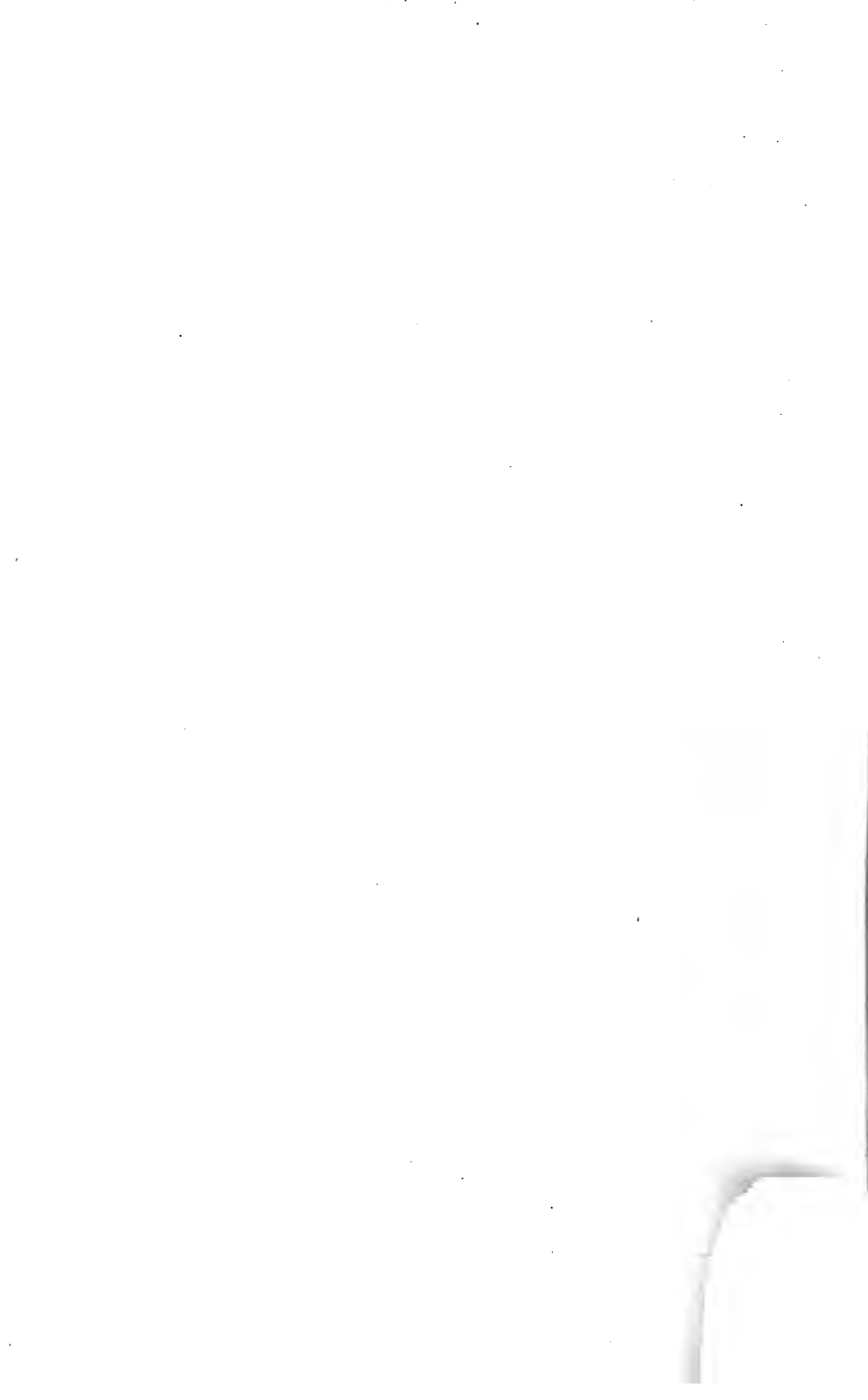
The Initial Letters at pp. 35, 82, 90, 145, 147, 151, 154, 156, 175, and 188, are fac-similes from a Chartulary of Fountains written about the close of the fourteenth century.

MAP of the DISTRICT	PAGE
Ripon Cathedral, from the S.E.	Frontispiece
Portrait of the late Mr. J. R. Walbran, F.S.A.	to face xi
Ripon, from the Studley Lime Kilns	I
Old Abbey Site	to face 25
Sanctuary Cross, Sharow	31
Ripon Cathedral—West Front	to face 35
Arms of the See of Ripon	50
Plan of Ripon Cathedral	to face 51
Bas-relief on a Tomb in South Aisle	58
Tomb of Sir Thomas Markenfield	61
Plan of St. Wilfrid's Crypt	67
Misereries from Choir Stalls	to face 70
Boss from Choir Vaulting (a Bishop seated)	71
The Old Bone House	to face 73
Ground Plan of Maison de Dieu Hospital	to face 78
Elevation of Maison de Dieu Hospital	to face 79
Studley Hall	82
Fountains Abbey from Anne Boleyn's Seat	88
Old Studley Hall	89
Fountains Tower and St. Michael's Mount	90
Seal of Cassandra de Estodley	97
Seals from the Fountains Charters	to face 98
Do	,, 99

X

ILLUSTRATIONS—CONTINUED.

	Page
Bracket, Gate-house	101
Cloisters, Fountains Abbey	103
Fountains Abbey, Choir and Nave looking West . . . to face	107
Plan of Vases in the Nave, Fountains	107
Sculpture—Annunciation of the Virgin	110
Tombstone of Abbat Burley	111
Do John de Ripon	112
Do Abbat Ripon	116
Do John de Cancia	121
Ground Plan of Fountains Abbey to face	114
Fountains Abbey from the S.W. to face	122
Specimens of pen and ink Sketches by the monks	123
Capitals, Brackets, &c., found during the Excavations . . . to face	125
Seal and Counter-Seal of Fountains Abbey, 1410 . . . to face	129
Silver Ornament—Lion's head	131
Septulchral Slabs, from the Cemetery, Fountains . . . to face	132
Capital, from the Chapter House	135
Initials, &c., of Marmaduke Huby	136
Markenfield Hall to face	141
Markenfield Hall	141
Plan of Markenfield Hall to face	144
Seal of Sir Thomas Markenfield	144
The Episcopal Palace	145
Brimham Rocks	156
The Refectory, Fountains to face	158
Seal of William de Hebden	161
Church of Christ the Consoler, Skelton to face	165
Pump Room, Sulphur Well, Harrogate	175
West Front, Bolton Priory	188
Bolton Priory, from the N.E. to face	193
Seal of Simon de Cluthurum	204





Yours most faithfully
J.R. Walbran.

Memoir.

JOHN RICHARD WALBRAN was born in Allhallowgate, Ripon, on Christmas Eve, 1817. He was the eldest son of his father, Mr. John Walbran, by his wife, Elizabeth, the daughter of Christopher Husband, of Ripon. The family had been settled for many generations in the neighbourhood of Bedale.

From the earliest years of childhood, Mr. Walbran shewed a marked taste for historical studies. This was not by any means encouraged by his parents, but so strongly was his mind bent in that direction, that no amount of opposition had any effect upon him. We have seen a tattered copy book, the contents of which were written at a time when he could form letters but very imperfectly, which shews that when a boy he had determined upon writing a history of his native city. When quite a lad it was remarked by those who knew him that he was far better acquainted with the history of Ripon and the surrounding towns and villages than any one in the neighbourhood.

He was educated at Whixley, under the Rev. J. Husband, the vicar; when his education there was finished, he was anxious to devote himself to the study of the law, not so much, we believe, with the idea of profit, as for the purpose of qualifying himself more fully for pursuing those researches on which his heart and mind were bent. For family reasons, which Walbran never explained, this desire was not complied with; but in after life, he gave so much attention to legal antiquities, that there were probably few members of that profession who had a deeper or more familiar knowledge of ancient forms of civil and ecclesiastical procedure, and the intricacies of feudal tenure.

In September, 1849, Mr. Walbran married Miss Jane Nicholson, daughter of the late Richard Nicholson, Esq., of Ripon. He was twice elected mayor of his native city—in 1856 and 1857. On the 12th of January, 1854, he was

elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries. For many of the latter years of his life he had suffered much from ill health. Early in the year 1868 he was stricken by paralysis, from the effects of which he died, on the 7th of April, 1869, and on the 10th of the same month was buried in the church yard of the Holy Trinity, at Ripon.

Few persons, in these days, pass a life so uneventful. His whole time was taken up with the study of his favourite subjects; and he seldom left home except to go to London or Oxford for the purpose of following up some of the thousand lines of investigation which his labours, in his own study, opened out to him. When he went out for pleasure, he rarely strayed further than to one or other of the great Yorkshire abbeys, where, solitary, or with one single companion, he would indulge in poetical reverie. A crowd he hated—especially a crowd of sight-seers. It was but seldom, even, that he could be induced to join in the tours of the various local archæological and architectural societies of which he was a member.

Mr. Walbran has published so little, that it is difficult for those who knew him most intimately, and impossible for all others, to measure the extent of his attainments. We ourselves believe that no one has ever had a more minute knowledge of the ecclesiastical and feudal history of Yorkshire than he; and that he possessed, in addition to mere fact-lore, the faculty of poetic idealization, in perhaps a higher degree than any contemporary writer on local history. In minute accuracy as to names and dates, he has had few equals; we remember no one except Robert Surtees—the historian of the Bishopric of Durham—who has so thoroughly identified himself with the spirit of the past, and who has clothed his thoughts in such touching words. Prefaces to antiquarian books, and papers read at archæological meetings, are not the places where one hopes to find beauty of expression, or thoughts touching from their depth of religious feeling or poetic beauty. Passages might, however, be quoted from Walbran's prefaces and papers which may well compare, in these respects, with anything in modern prose literature.

Mr. Walbran's first work, printed in 1841, but never published, was a *Genealogical Account of the Lords of Studley Royal*. Only a very few copies were struck off, as presents, and it is now of extreme rarity. This was followed, in the same year, by the first edition of the *Guide to Ripon and Harrogate*. Mr. Walbran had on previous occasions contributed to two editions of a *Tourists' Guide*, published by Linney, in 1837 and 1838. In the latter will be found the short genealogies of the Lords of Studley; the Earl de Grey (of Newby); and the Nortons of Norton. In 1857, Mr. Walbran, assisted by his friend and fellow-worker, the late MR. WILLIAM HARRISON, published a large and handsome edition of the *Guide*, embellished with numerous original woodcut illustrations and plans, for the most part from the author's own drawings. This edition may easily be identified by the artistic illuminated cover in which the book was bound, appropriately copied from the Tudor work of Abbot Huby and the handsome Municipalia of the Ripon Corporation. The first edition of the "Shilling Guide" was issued in 1863, and new editions have rapidly succeeded one another ever since.

In early childhood Mr. Walbran had determined upon writing a history of his own neighbourhood, but it was about the year 1844 that he laid down for himself a regular plan for a *History of the Wapentake of Claro and the Liberty of Ripon*. The book was to have consisted of two large folio volumes, to range with Whitaker's *Loidis and Elmete*. Unhappily for all who take an intelligent interest in the past, it has never seen the light. We believe that the manuscript collections for it are in good hands, but with Walbran, once to have known a fact, was to know it for ever, and he made few notes to refresh his memory; consequently very much of the knowledge which he possessed has been lost irretrievably. In 1851 he published, in octavo, the first part of a *History of Gainford, in the Bishopric of Durham*. There seems no very obvious connection between the Valley of the Tees and that of the Yore; but there were many circumstances connected with feudal ownerships and the intertwinings of pedigree, and also some of

a private nature, which made that part of the Palatinate appeal strongly to his imagination. The book was a most valuable contribution to local history. The second part, sad to say, never appeared. This is the more to be regretted, as it was certainly written; we ourselves turned over the pages of the manuscript in the author's study, in the year 1852. At the time when the first part was published, an appendix of charters was also printed, extending to thirty-two pages; and also a tabular pedigree of the Vane family. No copies of these are accessible except a few that were given away by the author to personal friends. In 1854, he published an essay on the *Oath taken by Members of the Parliaments of Scotland from 10th August, 1641*, the original manuscript of which he had discovered in the charter room of Major Dundas of Blair Castle. The tract is accompanied by a fac-simile of the original, executed by the editor, and short notes identifying the signers.

Shortly after this he undertook to edit, for the Surtees Society, the *Chronicle, Chartularies, Surveys, and Account Rolls of Fountains Abbey*. It was a work of immense labour. Only one volume, however, of the three or four of which it was to consist, was completed at the time of his death. The written records of Fountains have had a lot more fortunate than that of most of its sister houses. Though scattered, the great bulk of them are not lost. Mr. Walbran had the unrestricted use of the vast mass of important evidences in the Marquess of Ripon's muniment room. He also visited every repository in England where anything could possibly be found calculated to throw light upon his favourite theme. Not only were the British Museum, the Bodleian, and the college libraries of Oxford and Cambridge, ransacked to supply materials for these *Memorials*, but the charter chests of the Yorkshire nobility, and the treasures of those private libraries whose manuscript stores are seldom open to the literary enquirer, were carefully gone through. So thorough was the search, that we know that Walbran read through every word of the Catalogues of the manuscripts in the British Museum, the Bodleian, and the colleges and halls of Oxford to make himself quite sure that

he had omitted nothing by accident. We believe he so went through a great part of the manuscript calendars in Her Majesty's Record Office, in the same careful manner. Had Walbran lived, the second volume of the *Memorials* was to have been issued in 1870. A considerable portion was printed at the time of his death, but it has not, as yet, seen the light. The *Memorials of Fountains*, fragment as it is, will always be a work of great value to all who take interest in the history of the North of England, or in that great work of spiritual revival which was carried on by the Cistercian order. It is not as a mere antiquary that we regret that this important undertaking has not been brought to a conclusion. On social grounds, and the still higher one of religion, it is important that the monastic life should be set before us as it really was—not caricatured, as it too often is, by partizan historians. Walbran was above all party feeling, and no one could have suspected that anything had been left out or coloured for purposes of present controversy.

When the late Earl de Grey determined to clear away the rubbish which incumbered the ruins of Fountains Abbey, and entirely concealed from view the interesting remains of the abbot's house and the surrounding buildings, Mr. Walbran, at the earl's request, superintended the excavations. His architectural knowledge was also devoted to the service of the ancient hall of the Markenfields of Markenfield, when the late Lord Grantley undertook the restoration of that interesting memorial of a fallen race.

Mr. Walbran's communications to the periodical press are incapable of identification. In early life he sometimes wrote in the *Literary Gazette* and the *Gentleman's Magazine*, but never, or hardly ever, under his own signature.

The following papers have appeared in the *Reports of the Architectural Societies of Yorkshire and Lincolnshire*.

ON EXCAVATIONS AT FOUNTAINS ABBEY IN 1851. Vol. I., p. 263.

ONE OTHER PAPER ON THE EXCAVATIONS AT THAT PLACE IN 1854. Vol. III., p. 54.

ON EXCAVATIONS AT SAWLEY ABBEY. Vol. II., p. 72.

ON KIRKHAM PRIORY. Vol. IV., p. 269.

ON ST. WILFRID AND THE SAXON CHURCH AT RIPON.
Vol. V., p. 63.

ON THE ABBEY OF THE BLESSED MARY OF BYLAND.
Vol. VII., p. 219.

He also published FOUNTAINS ABBEY IN THE OLDEN TIME,
in the *Archæologist*, vol. I.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE SAXON CRYPT UNDER THE CATHE-
DRAL CHURCH OF RIPON, in the *Journal of the Archæological
Association*.

A MEMOIR OF HENRY JENKINS, in *The Yorkshireman's
Book*. 1840.

AN EXHORTACYON TO NOBYLLES AND COMMONS OF THE
NORTHE, from a Manuscript now in the Record Office. 1843.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE NECESSITY OF CLEARING OUT THE
CONVENTUAL CHURCH OF FOUNTAINS. Privately printed.
1846.

A SUMMER'S DAY AT BOLTON PRIORY. 1847.

THE VISITORS' GUIDE TO REDCAR. 1848.

NOTES ON MANUSCRIPTS AT RIPLEY CASTLE. 1864.
Printed, but not published.

At the request of the present writer, he edited AN INQUI-
SITION TAKEN BEFORE THE COMMISSIONERS OF SEWERS
FOR THE COUNTY OF LINCOLN. 1583.

In 1864 he wrote nearly the whole of Preface II. ON THE
FABRIC OF HEXHAM PRIORY, for Canon Raine's second volume
of *Hexham Priory*. Surtees Society's Publications, No. 46.

The greater part of the above were printed by Mr. William
Harrison, of Ripon. In all Walbran's literary undertakings,
Harrison was his fellow-worker, and it is but simple justice to
repeat here, what Walbran always said when living—that to
Mr. Harrison's local knowledge and professional skill, the
public are indebted for very much of that which Walbran pro-
duced. Although literary research was his greatest pleasure,
the mechanical part of authorship was very distasteful to him;
and had it not been for the constant sympathy and help which

Harrison afforded, it is doubtful whether Walbran would have ever published some of his most important works.

The accompanying engraving is from a portrait of Mr. Walbran in chalks, taken in the year 1851, by Mr. J. Barker, of Kirkby Malzeard. It is a most faithful likeness.

Of his power over the melodies of verse it would be rash of us to speak. He frequently published fugitive poetry, but always under disguise. We have seen and read several of these, of which we think highly. The original manuscript of one poem, which has never hitherto been printed, never even corrected by the author, is now before us. As it relates to a legend connected with more than one place mentioned in the following pages, it may fitly be given here.

MARKENFIELD.

The shades of eve are falling fast around the old moated hall,
And the breeze creeps slowly o'er the waters beneath its embattled wall,
But a darker cloud and a colder breath are spreading far within,
Where soon the Lord of Markenfield must leave this world of sin.

On a carved couch of massy oak, by tourney rich o'erspread,
Rests the fevered wreck of the haughty form that hath oft the foray led;
But the visage stern and undaunted brow are now subdued and mild
And the voice that rung through the forest deep, become as of a child.

Not far from hence in an oriel tall, bedight with many a pane
Of pictured saint, and quartered shield, and many a glorious name,
Whence the sunbeams cast rich orient tints around the sick man's head,
And seemed wild dreams of chivalry, yet lingering round his bed,

There stands erect a priestly form, whose keen eyes seemed to rest
On the golden clouds and magic shades that were dying in the west;
And he gazed on the fields and waving woods of that antique domain
And thought of the land where their lord might be when that sun should rise again.

But the Lord Abbot of Fountains hath come too late; and 'tis none less than he,
For, nor eucharist nor crucifix may that glazed eye now see:
Yet the lava blood of the dreams of old oppress his brain again
And he deemed that he dwelt with his Lady love, 'mid the sunny hills of Spain;

And saw the blue river winding far among the vine clad hills,
And streamlets dashing down their sides in many silver rills,
And that on her rich jewelled breast his head is resting now,
While her clustering raven tresses wave above his burning brow.

Then that in battle's deadliest throng he bore himself amain,
And dashed on his black charger wild along the ranks again,
And heard the clash of mailed arms above his crested head
And the cry of "St. George for England," and the wailings o'er the dead :

But swiftly to him that ghastr warrior comes that rampant rides the earth,
And his burning lips are paling fast at the icy kiss of death :
The Abbot turned to the wasted form and had then his blessing given,
But the soul that on earth had hallowed it had passed the gates of heaven.

Rudely and quick his vassals bold are gathering round that bed,
And eyes that never wept before, gaze wildly on the dead ;
With piteous whine his favourite hound fawns on the nerveless hand,
And seems the most unfriended there of all that rugged band.

Why cried some should youth and strength be snatched thus away
While age and vice and impotence are with us still to stay ?
For they recked not of the immortal land to which his soul had gone,
Nor deemed there was bestowed there what his sorrows here had won.

Yet the Abbot spoke not of the mysteries of that dread sealed book
On whose destinies and records e'en the angels may not look,
But muttered as he gazed on each in a sad and solemn tone
" Marvel not thus among yourselves, well is it he has gone."

Still they deemed it marvel great enough that no lament should be made
For one who had left a noble home in the cold grave to be laid ;
No more to rouse from his ferny bed the stag at early morn
Nor be gladdened on the mountain side by his merry huntsman's horn.

No word spake yet the holy man of Paradise's bowers,
Nor of cloudless climes and Eden groves and of Jerusalem's towers,
He taught them not the vanity of the joys he here had left
But he bowed down his manly form, and,—if he could—had wept.

For the worn course of those tears was dry, whose fount is in the heart,
And there was left no earthly joy from which he cared to part,
Since he saw the grave close o'er her form that this fated knight had born,
And he looked for death as lost travellers look for the blush of morning's dawn.

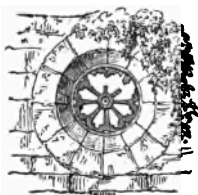
Now flies the blast—long loud and fast—o'er Morker's woods on high,
And lightning wings its fiery darts athwart the midnight sky,
Skell joins the moan of its troublous tone as it dashes adown the dell
And mingles, anon, as it sweeps along with the boom of the dead man's knell.



RIPON FROM THE STUDLEY LIMEKILNS.

RIPON.

HISTORICAL INTRODUCTION.



F all the divisions of our favoured island, the County of York has pre-eminent claims on the attention of that numerous class of the community which delights in reviewing the abundant beauties of its own insufficiently appreciated country. Comprising an area sufficient for a principality, meted by great natural features, containing the proudest memorials of ancient piety and chivalry, as well as the most diversified and ingenious applications of modern science, it is, in itself, an epitome of the kingdom, and needs not the aid of its peculiar natural beauties, to allure those who are uncertain whither to direct their steps, with the greatest certainty of enjoyment.

There is however, unfortunately, another class of persons who are tempted to this particular part of the kingdom, not so much from inclination as necessity. Its mineral springs and salubrious climate offer a most powerful remedial influence to

those for whom restoration to health would be the greatest earthly blessing. And it is not less singular than fortunate that the central portion of the county, which is thus chiefly resorted to, has within the compass of moderate excursions, an unusual variety of most interesting objects, by the inspection of which the mind may be refreshed and engaged, whilst physical strength is invigorated or attained.

It is, on this account, that the vicinity of Ripon is particularly deserving of consideration to those who would thoroughly enjoy their visit to Harrogate. Situated on the immediate verge of that "Yorkshire plain," of which the competent judgment of Bancroft has affirmed that the like is not to be seen on this side the Alps, yet elevated gently above commingling streams, on the last slope of the great western hills, its landscape scenery comprehends all those features on which a lover of the cultivated aspect of Nature delights to dwell—pervaded everywhere by a feeling of order, tranquillity, and continuance, and enriched by those associations and memorials incident to a bye-past centre of progress and civilisation.

To the consideration of these monuments, and of the institutions which originated them, the greater part of the following pages will necessarily be devoted; and seldom does he who recognises, even in local history, "philosophy teaching by example," observe a more diversified series and intelligible development of those elements which have produced our present social and political condition.

As early, indeed, as shelter for himself and pasturage for his cattle were among the most pressing necessities of uncivilised man, it is evident that the advantageous position of this place would often induce its temporary occupation; and several conical pits on the "High Common" have been considered the site of these dwellings. Yet—even in this migratory and unsettled period—we have far more direct and conclusive evidence, that the immediate vicinity of Ripon was regarded with peculiar interest and veneration; since one of the tribes of the Brigantian Celts had chosen it as their station for the dispensation of justice and the celebration of religious rites; in fact had made

it the seat of their government. This position—novel as it may be—is, I believe, sufficiently proved by two remarkable earth-works, on the high land near “Blois Hall,” commanding extensive prospects up and down the Vale of Ure, as well as of the distant ranges of hills which form the side screens of the great Yorkshire plain. Like Abury and Stonehenge, which they rival in antiquity, their outline is that of a circle, of which the diameter is not less than 680 feet; but no stones remain, nor indeed does that material seem to have been used in their formation. Though recent agricultural operations have partially effaced the regularity and proportion of their plan, it is sufficiently evident that they were enclosed by a lofty mound and corresponding trench—the latter being inside, and a platform or space about thirty feet wide intervening. This opinion, however, may be reduced to certainty, by an inspection of the three similar temples at Thornborough, near Tanfield, about six miles hence, one of which remains perfect. At two opposite points, bearing nearly north and south, the mound and trench, for about the space of twenty-five feet, have been discontinued, in order to form an approach to the area of the temple. Outside the mound, also, are some slight vestiges of a further avenue, but too indefinite to be traced. But, however obscure the denotation of their several parts may have become, the antiquity and purpose of these places, as temples for the performance of religious rites, is perhaps ascertained by the existence of, at least, eight large Celtic barrows in their immediate vicinity; one of which, being on the very ridge of the vale, and planted with fir trees, forms a conspicuous and useful object to guide a stranger to the site. Two of these barrows were opened in 1846, but I found nothing except a few calcined human bones, the ashes of the oaken funeral pile, and some fragments of flint arrow heads, such as are still used by the North-American Indians. In 1865 the Scientific Society published a pamphlet on this subject, which was edited by the Rev. W. C. Lukis, and contains all the recent discoveries.

There is, unfortunately, no access to the most perfect of these earth-works by a public path; but its situation is rendered

visible from the high road leading from Ripon to Rainton, by the presence of two small pyramids or obelisks, built on the mound of the temple, about sixty years ago ; in the place, it is said, of two similar erections, apparently of high antiquity. The other earth-work is in a large field called "Cana," near the Ripon and Dishforth road.

It may not be unreasonable to believe, that a spring which rises in a piece of enclosed ground, called "Halikeld Field," about mid-way between these earth-works and the village of Melmerby, was the "*font sacer*" necessary for the due performance of early religious rites ; and in the absence of all direct evidence, may, by its consequent pre-eminent sanctity, be supposed to have given a name, in Saxon times, to the Wapentake of Halikeld, in which both it and the earth-works are situated. "Hailekelde landes," in Melmerby, are mentioned in charters of the thirteenth century.

Besides the remains of these temples, several evidences of the Celtic occupation of the immediate neighbourhood of Ripon have been found in the shape of celts, beads, and fragments of coarse pottery ware. The most interesting object, however, is a splendid golden torque, found in 1818, near Studley Hall, concealed between two large stones, which had probably once formed a portion of the substratum of a barrow. Within 640 yards of this place, and near some broken ground in Lindrick farm, was also found a large sword of bronze, which the discoverer—inheriting the spirit of the age when it had been fabricated—immediately threw away, lest, as he sagely averred, he might be bewitched by its possession.

The few opportunities that have favoured investigation of the soil have not presented proof that there was any considerable settlement, either on the site or in the immediate vicinity of Ripon, during the Roman period ; though its position, on a *lingula* of land declining between two converging rivers, and its proximity to their city of Isurium, may induce the idea that it was not entirely unoccupied by that people. Indeed, among the papers of the learned Gale, was the sketch of a tessellated pavement of that period, which was discovered here ; and, a

small vase of Roman workmanship—now in my possession—was found not many years ago at the depth of seven feet, on the west-side of the “Horsefair.” But these indicia, with a few silver and copper coins, dating from the reign of Vespasian to that of Constantine, turned up in and near the streets, comprise, at present, all the evidence that exists of Roman occupation in Ripon itself. The great Roman road, which retained, here, its name of “Watling Strete” in the thirteenth century, passed Ripon, at a distance of three miles on the east; and a vicinal way, still called “Roman Rigg”—stretching towards the exploratory camp behind Hackfall—may be traced, through Lindrick farm, to the river Laver, at an equal distance on the west side of the city. In the year 1867 some excavations were made by the Ripon Scientific Society, at a place called Castle Dykes, by which the remains of fragments of tessellated pavements and other workmanship were disclosed. These discoveries have found a chronicler in Mr. T. C. Heslington.

Descending, now, to the period when written evidence imparts the assurance of details and dates to our narrative, we find that, as early as the seventh century, the industry of Saxon agriculturists was rewarded, here, by the fertility of the Vale of Ure. Alcfrid, prince of Deira, or the southern portion of the kingdom of Northumbria, was lord of the soil, and about the year 660, bestowed on Eata, abbat of Melrose, a portion of ground, at Ripon, whereon to erect a monastic foundation.

It is probable, notwithstanding, that the village, which consequently arose might have remained in the same insignificant condition which was the doom of many places where monasteries were founded in the Saxon times, if it had not happened that, on the expulsion of the Scottish monks, prince Alcfrid gave the monastery to Wilfrid, a pious, learned, and enthusiastic man, who had been his tutor, and who, ever after, regarded the place with peculiar affection. With the monastery were bestowed the lands appurtenant to thirty, or as some write forty dwellings, being probably the whole adjacent territory which was then brought into cultivation. After Wilfrid was elevated to the see of York, he rebuilt this monastery with all the

superior elegance and taste he had acquired during his sojourn in Italy and foreign lands ; and by his patronage and exertions, unquestionably, the huts that had been reared around the oratory of the holy fathers became the centre of civilisation of the adjacent country, and the germ of the future town.

The silence of the early chronicles allows us to hope that there was peace at Ripon during the warfare and brutal devastation that prevailed in the North during the eighth and ninth centuries. According, however, to some indefinite accounts, it shared this cruel fate towards the close of the latter period ; for about the year 860, when the Danes were ravaging the country with insatiable fury, they are said to have razed the town to the ground, and done much injury to the monastery.

There remains, indeed, to our own day, a monument of some dreadful carnage that occurred here awhile after. This is a large conical tumulus at the east side of the town, about a bow shot from the cathedral, composed throughout of sand, gravel, and human bones, mingled in that indiscriminate manner that would occur when the victims of the battle-field were hastily collected in one vast mound, that served alike as their memorial and their tomb. The teeth and bones of horses, too, have been found in quantities within a short distance around its base. This singular and mysterious object, which was called in Leland's time Ilshow, but now Ailcy Hill, measures about three hundred yards in circumference at its base, and about seventy in sloping height. Etymologists have connected its name with a presumption that Ella, the Northumbrian king, fought, or was subsequently slain here in 867 ; and that he, or those who fell with him, were deposited in a "how" or hill that was designated by his name. The fact of his death having occurred here is, however, clearly disproved by several ancient chroniclers,* who state that he fell with king Osbert, at York ; and the Saxon personal appellation of "Elsi" harmonises better with the vulgar pronunciation, which has been immemorially "Ailcy." Still its own internal evidence has

* Chron. Sax. ed. Wheloc p. 532. Asserij Annales, XV. Scrip. 159.

proved that it was thrown up in, or very shortly after, Ella's time; for, in digging in the hill—which, until the late enclosure of the common where it stood, was used as a gravel pit—there were found, in the early part of 1695, several stycas of Osbert and Ella, Ethelred, Eanred, and Aelred. Within memory, also, many have been found in the hill; but, through ignorance of their value, all have been dispersed or lost.

Hitherto, the soil of Ripon may have been possessed by the successive monarchs of Northumbria, with the exception of what had been given by them to Wilfrid and his monastery; if the statement—believed as early as 1280*—is correct, that Athelstan, who reigned from 925 to 940, gave the *Manor* of Ripon to Wulstan, Archbishop of York. Yet little reliance can be placed on the mediæval interpretations of a Saxon grant, and the truth—as suggested both by the authentic portion of the charters of Athelstan, printed in the “Monasticon,”† as well as by the petition of Archbishop Bowet to Parliament, in 1415‡—seems, rather, to be that Athelstan, when he came with his army to Ripon, on his expedition against the Scots, vowed, that, if he should prove successful, he would endow the churches of York, Ripon, and Beverley, with profitable privileges; and that his grant consisted in the creation and conveyance of peculiar and exempt legal jurisdiction over those manorial and appurtenant lands already acquired by the see of York, and, since, comprehended in what is termed the franchise, or “Liberty of Ripon.”

When king Edred proceeded to the North, to revenge the perfidy of the Northumbrians, about the year 948,§ he devastated and burned the town and monastery of Ripon, in consequence, as it is supposed, of Archbishop Wulstan, its lord, being implicated in the rebellion. Odo, Archbishop of Canterbury, visited the province of York very soon after this devastation.¶ He had pity, as Leland observes,¶ on the desolation of Ripon monastery, and began, or caused a “new work to be

* Placita de Quo Warr. R. C. p. 197. † Mon. Angl. i. 172.

‡ Rot. Parl. vol. iv., p. 85.

§ A.D. 948, says Matt. Westm., p. 368; but A.D. 950, Sim. Dunelm., X Script., i., c. 166.

¶ R. de Diceto. X Scrip. c. 455.

¶ Itin. i. 91.

edified wher the present minstre now is." Prosperity seems to have followed his exertions so effectually that, after a lapse of a century, and in the reign of Edward the Confessor, the manor had acquired the annual value of 32*l*.* Archbishop Aldred was then its lord. He was the last Archbishop of York under the Saxon dynasty, and crowned William the Conqueror.

It has been fortunate for the town that the Conqueror bestowed the manor on Aldred's successor, Thomas, rather than on a layman, who might have neglected it, in consequence of its comparatively defenceless position. He had been a canon of Bayeux; and having aided William with a large sum of money to prosecute his expedition, was thus rewarded with the primacy of York. During his time the town shared so severely in the devastation that succeeded the siege of York in 1069, that, when Domesday survey was taken sixteen years after, the value of the manor was depreciated to 7*l*. 10*s*.; and most of the appurtenant berewics were still desolate and waste. Under the fostering and powerful patronage of the Archbishops of York, with whom Ripon was a favourite residence† until Walter Grey erected the palace at Bishopthorpe, the prosperity of the town increased apace. The death of Archbishop Thomas occurred here Nov. 18th, 1100;§ and Murdac retired hither, when at issue with his Chapter. The hosts of retainers and followers that these great dignitaries daily maintained, together with the influx of persons who attended the fairs they had been privileged to hold by kings Henry and Stephen, could not fail in that day—when commerce was confined to chartered localities—to confer lasting benefit on the town. The number of persons employed in the erection of the church, and the several ecclesiastical structures around, must, also, from the long period over which these works extended, have contributed to the same result. Before the close of the thirteenth century, and, probably at a far earlier period, the manufacture of woollen cloth had been established in the town, which had arrived at such importance as to be deemed worthy of representation in parliament.

* Domesday Book.

† Ibid

‡ Stubbs, Act. Pont. Ebor. X Script. ii., c. 1709.

§ Bromton, X Scrip. ii. 801.

On the 3rd of October, 1295,* it was summoned to send two members to a parliament, to be held at Westminster on the 13th of November following. It was summoned four times afterward, and until the 19th Edward II., when it ceased to send members, until the last parliament of Edward VI.,† from which period it has been summoned to the present time.

About the year 1319, when the country was distracted by the contentions of the imbecile Edward and his barons, Robert Bruce seized on several of the towns and military stations in the north. He sacked and ravaged the Yorkshire towns of Northallerton, Boroughbridge, Skipton, and Scarborough; and having turned his army in this direction, remained at Ripon three days, where he imposed a tribute of one thousand marks on the terrified inhabitants; two hundred and forty of which they immediately paid, fearing lest he should put his threat of burning the town into execution.

The evil day was only protracted for a while: for, after Bruce's pursuit of King Edward to York, his army again visited Ripon, when, finding the wretched inhabitants unable to comply with their demands, they perpetrated many brutal atrocities: putting to death among others, several ministers of the collegiate church, which according to Walsingham, they endeavoured to destroy by fire.

Notwithstanding the calamity which had befallen the town, King Edward summoned a parliament to meet here on the 14th of November, 1322; but it did not assemble, being removed, by writ of proclamation, to York.

Though this incident may be indicative only of a temporary prosperity, yet the manufacture of woollen cloth, on which the staple and progressive character of the town depended, was, probably, never after prosecuted with its former success. Indeed the woollen trade, generally, was at this period, in a very hopeless condition, and never revived, until Edward III. induced certain Flemish manufacturers to settle in England, one of whose establishments at York would, alone, interfere unfavourably with the more unskilful operations conducted here. Yet

* Palgrave's Parl. Writs, i. 36, 85.

† Willis's Not. Parl., viii., p. 66-7.

the resort of the country people to its fairs and markets, where—in the deficiency of shops—goods of all descriptions were sold, together with the presence and patronage of two great ecclesiastical establishments, must have maintained the town in a respectable commercial position.

During the remainder of the fourteenth century, nothing occurred of general interest in the annals of Ripon; and through that which succeeded it, we would hope that the absence of striking incident is indicative of a state of peace and contentment; escaping the vicissitudes and troubles to which it might have been exposed by the possession of a permanent fortification, and subjection to a military lord of the fee, during the desolating wars of York and Lancaster.

During the fifteenth century the Plumpton correspondence affords one striking picture of the state of the town in 1441, when at the time of the fair Archbishop Kempe garrisoned Ripon with a number of his Northumbrian tenants. They are described as going “robling” up and down the town, and longing for an affray with “the knaves and lads of the forest.”

But whatever may have been the degree of vigour with which the staple manufacture was prosecuted here during these periods, in the middle of the sixteenth century, when a new combination of the elements of social progress was evolved, it sensibly declined; and the trade was transferred to the more congenial site of Halifax. Leland, who was here about the year 1534, observed that “there hath bene, hard on the farther ripe of Skelle, a great numbre of tenters for woollen clothes, wont to made in the town of Ripon. But now idelness is sore incresid in the town, and clothe making almost decayed.”

The simultaneous dissolution of the religious houses interfered also, unfavourably, with the social comfort and temporal prosperity of the town; not only by diverting the proceeds of large and distant estates, which had been freely expended here, into absent or avaricious hands, but by exchanging the solace of ancient ties and associations for the poisonous infusion of theological strife; so that when a “great plague” visited Ripon, in 1546, the full measure of its affliction was filled up.

This state of derangement and discord continued with little abatement until the famous "Rising in the North," in 1569, when Richard Norton and Thomas Markenfield, the lords of domains hard by Ripon, which had bestowed on their race these ancient and chivalrous names, allowed the long suppressed bitterness of their religious discontent to plot and urge on that ill-starred expedition, in which the earls of Northumberland and Westmerland were put forward as the ostensible leaders. The former of these noblemen had a seat at Topcliffe, seven miles from Ripon, where the rebels held their early meetings. They came here, on their road from Durham, on Friday, the 18th of November, 1569, and were here on the 19th, when many joined them. They had a muster at the Market-cross; and the earls made a proclamation, which Sir George Bowes—their adversary—describes as the most effectual thing they did. Here Norton displayed his memorable banner, and mass was celebrated in the collegiate church. After putting Sir William Ingilby, who had opposed them, to flight, they marched to Knaresborough; and at length to Clifford Moor, whence they, injudiciously, returned to the North; but the footmen risen in Ripon and the vicinity had seen enough of the campaign, and refused to pass their homes. On the night of the 16th of December, the lords Warwick and Clinton arrived at Ripon, in pursuit of the rebels; and in the next month a dreadful demonstration of their victorious arms was exhibited in this place. As a significant and memorable warning, there were ordered to be executed here, all the rebel constables of the West-Riding, except those of Wetherby, Boroughbridge, and Tadcaster; all the offending serving-men of the West-Riding; and lastly—within sight of their neighbours, and homes, and kindred—the misguided townsmen of Ripon.

Towards the close of the sixteenth century, there seems, also, to have prevailed much animosity and discord in the borough, chiefly caused by the uncertain mode of electing the chief officer, who was called the "Wakeman," and the irregular constitution of the municipal body; which, having existed—though, perhaps, originally as a Merchant Guild—apparently

from the Saxon times, became, in the absence of legally defined powers, a law unto itself, and therefore unable either to command respect, or to withstand that rising spirit of inductive argument which was not to be satisfied merely with traditional authority. With the consent of Archbishop Hutton—Lord of the Manor and Liberty—whose predecessor, Cardinal Wolsey, had similarly interfered in 1517, a definite arrangement was attempted in 1598; and a code of Bye-laws framed for the general constitution of the body and government of the town. Much of the irregularity being “supposed a long time by y^e most p^rte of y^e wisest and best accompt in and about y^e said Towne to have fallen out by reason of y^e confusion, and y^e number of aldermen being never limited wth any certaine number,” they were then reduced from twenty-nine to twelve. Twelve more were added not long after; but the system being still open to objection, the inhabitants, soon after the accession of king James, petitioned the monarch for a “more certain and undoubted mode of election.”

This was granted to them, June 26th, 1604, in a Charter of Incorporation, obtained chiefly by the efforts of Mr. Hugh Ripley, a “merchant and mercer” of the town, who was Wakeman at that time, and was nominated by the crown, as first mayor.

In consequence of the plague raging at York in 1604, the Court of the Lord President of the North was adjourned to Ripon, where it was held a short time.

When King James I. was on his progress to Scotland, in 1617, he honoured Ripon with a brief visit. He left York on Tuesday, April 15th, and came here that evening; when, as the official minute in the Corporation Register says, he lodged at “the house of Mr. George Dawson, and at his Highnes comynge to the said towne, Mr. Thomas Procter, Recorder of this corporation, made a speech vnto his Ma^{tie}; wch done, there was presented unto his Highnes, by Mr. Symon Browne Maior, the Alderman and Burgesses of the said Corporation, a gilte bowle and a pair of Rippon spurres, w^{ch} spurres coste vii and were such a contentment to his Ma^{tie} as his Highnes did wear

the same the day followyng at his dep'ture forth of the said towne."

The plague again visited Ripon in 1625, so severely that the country people dreaded approaching the town, and their children were, more than once, baptised on the common pasture. From the commencement of its fatality on the 2nd of June, 1625, to its termination on the 4th of May, 1626, there died in all ninety-six persons, whose names and places of abode are entered, separately, in the Parish Register.

In the spring of the year 1632, Charles I. passed through Ripon on his way to Edinburgh, where he was crowned on the 18th of July following.

The untenable position of the town exempted it from sharing, severely, in the horrors of the Grand Rebellion. One of those wars of words that preceded that most dire explosion was however, for a while, maintained here: for the Scottish lords having refused, in 1640, to treat at York with the English Commissioners, Ripon was the place agreed on for their meeting.

The house in which this extraordinary conference was held, together with the table and benches that remained in the apartment used by the Commissioners, are still remembered by several persons. The great interest that attached to this building could not preserve it from destruction. It was pulled down many years ago, and its site now forms part of Mr. Cayley's gardens, near Ailcy Hill. The proceedings of the Commissioners are recorded in a quarto tract of some rarity.

Another brief incident of this sad drama was enacted here, in March, 1642-3, when Sir Thomas Mauleverer entered the town with a detachment of the parliamentary forces. In the exercise of their usual blasphemy and licentiousness, they riotously and profanely intruded themselves into the Collegiate Church, and showed what kind of liberty they desired, and were worthy to enjoy, by breaking the painted windows, and defacing the memorials of the dead. "But," says Gent (writing about ninety years after, in his usual quaint style), "they were soon after attacked by a detachment of Royallists from Skipton Castle, then governed by that glorious sufferer for

his loyalty, Sir John Mallory, of Studley Royal, assisted by several Rippon champions, whose duty and allegiance was unalterable; who, coming upon the rebels by surprise in the Market-place, where they had kept their main guard, made them feel the sharpness of their swords by a better fate than they deserved." Some were taken prisoners, and sent to "Skipton and other places."

But the energies of many "glorious sufferers for loyalty" could not quench that fierce blaze that was so soon to scathe the land. In the very streets where the "Rippon champions" had enjoyed their little triumph, they soon after beheld their unfortunate and misguided king a captive in the hands of his subjects. On his way from Newcastle to Holmby, he came here on the 6th of February, 1646, having then left Richmond; and remained until the 8th, when he was conveyed to Wakefield. He was attended by a strong guard of horse and foot, and it is remarkable that Ripon was the only place, of the ten stages, where he was allowed to remain two nights.

The ascendancy of the Parliament affected materially the institutions of the town, which were all in antagonism with the popular feeling. The Manorial rights were seized, and sold to Lord Fairfax in 1647. The lands appurtenant to the Royalty were alienated between that year and 1650. The Chapter of the Cathedral was suppressed: and many members of the Corporation became so insensible to the welfare of their country and their town, as to advocate the principles of puritanical dissent and licentious insubordination.

When order was restored by the accession of king Charles II., the Corporations were purged of their unworthy members; and a Commission for that purpose sat here, the 23rd of September, 1662. The vacancies were supplied by persons of great respectability, who did all that corporate influence could effect for the advancement of the town. For some time they directed their attention to the renewal of their charter, and the grant of two fairs for cattle and horses, which they deemed would be beneficial to the inhabitants. Nothing, however, was effected until the accession of James II., when, after a consulta-

tion with the Archbishop of York, they surrendered their charter, September 2nd, 1684, to the king, who was pleased to restore it with another from himself, dated 12th January, 1686, confirming the privileges of the Corporation, and conceding the fairs they desired.

From the close of the seventeenth century, the history of the town becomes devoid of general interest. It had its own little squabbles about the Pretender and the Pope ; but basking in the sunshine of agricultural prosperity, and restrained by the influence of a wealthy and benevolent family in one bond of political feeling that taught "Whatever is, is right," there was generated a disbelief in the *possibility* of change, which has, too often, been ruthlessly dispelled, in the great social and commercial struggles which have ensued.

During the last twenty years, the ancient institutions of the town—and, especially, from that exclusive character in which their original efficacy existed—have been despoiled in silent antagonism with those measures by which legislators have attempted to direct their operation, in a changed condition of society. The special privilege of the burgage holders to elect the members of Parliament was taken away by the Reform Bill. The numerical as well as the administrative power of the Corporation was reduced by the general statute of 1835. The manorial jurisdiction of the Archbishop of York has been abridged, his Court of Pleas all but absorbed in the County Court, and his once lucrative franchise of fairs and markets infringed even within the parish. The constitution of the Chapter of the Cathedral has been remodelled ; and, lastly, the mercantile competition of other and distant places is encouraged by the formation of a railway to the city.

The last, however, is the only change which may, ultimately, affect the prosperity or settled condition of the place. Although, of course, it was expected to work—here as elsewhere—such an hopeful effect as no man would limit, even in imagination ; it may be as probable that—with no peculiar advantage of mineral wealth, nor of position, except in an unlimited water power—Ripon will not escape that dominant commercial in-

fluence which has arisen on the ruin of local immunities and associations; but that, henceforth, it will be exclusively sought and enjoyed by those who would retire from successful contention with the world.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

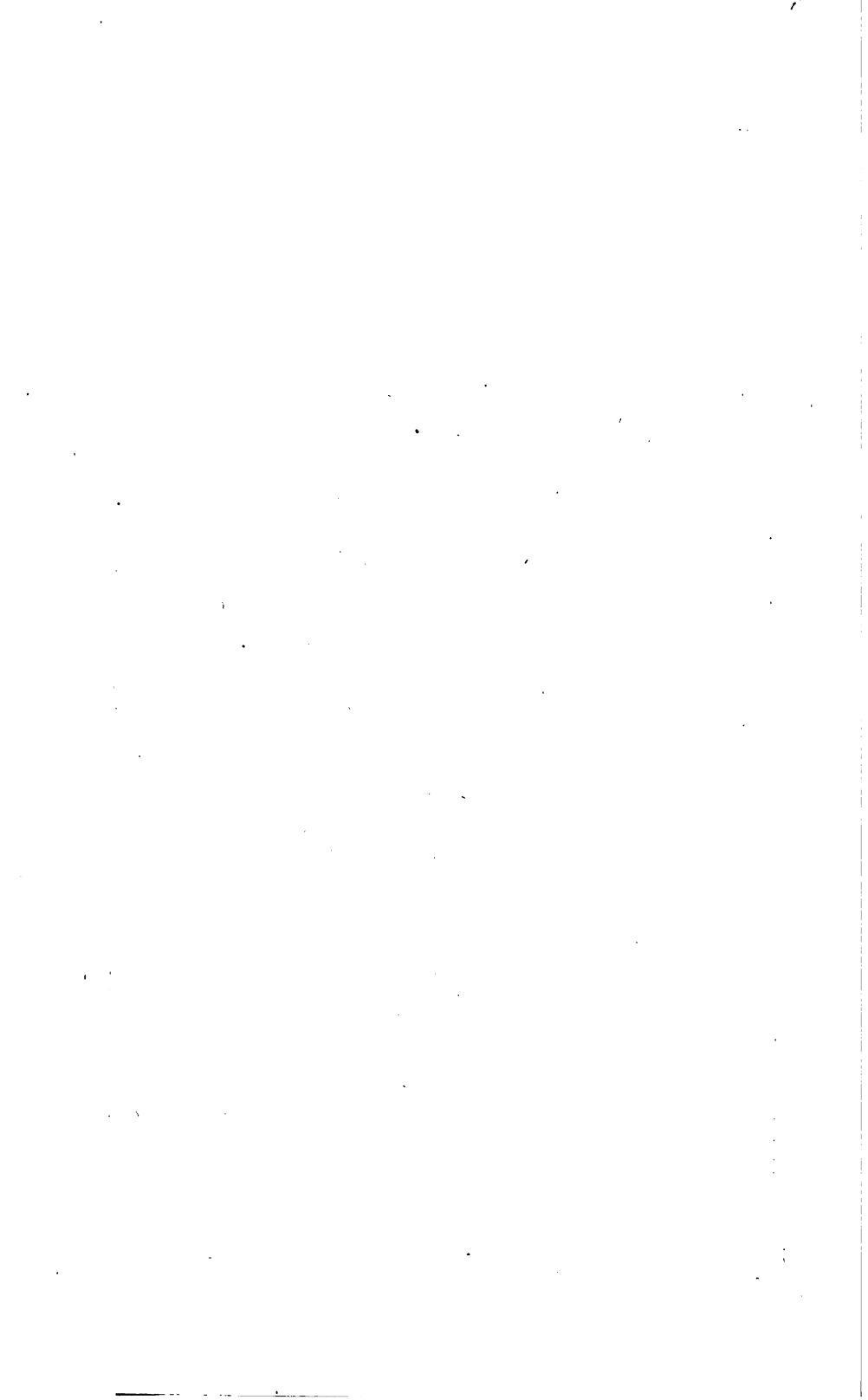
CIRCUMSCRIBING the city is a district—comprehending 33,330 acres and twenty-four townships—in which, from the time of the Saxon king Athelstan, the Archbishop of York, in right of his manor, has exercised an exclusive franchise or jurisdiction, immemorially known by the name of “the Liberty of Ripon,” and occasionally by that of “Ripponshire.” Its outline—which has diverted the boundary of the West Riding from its natural and general direction with the river Ure—agrees, as might have been supposed, nearly with that of the parish; but several townships which are included, geographically, in the parochial, are without the civil district; in consequence, I presume, of their ancient feudal dependence on the barony and castle of Kirkby-Malzeard. It comprehends also the adjacent parish of Nidd.

Within this district, until successive restrictions of the legislature, the Archbishop enjoyed those extraordinary privileges termed legally, “*Jura Regalia*,” the nature of which cannot be detailed here. Suffice is to say, that by the exclusion of the High Sheriff, he had unlimited judicial authority, both over the property and the lives of the residents, the one branch remaining in the Court of Pleas, the other represented, in an abridged form, by the Court of Quarter Sessions. The “Liberty” also maintains its exempt character, in its offices of High Steward, Justices of the Peace, Coroner, Clerk of the Peace, Chief Constable, and Gaoler.

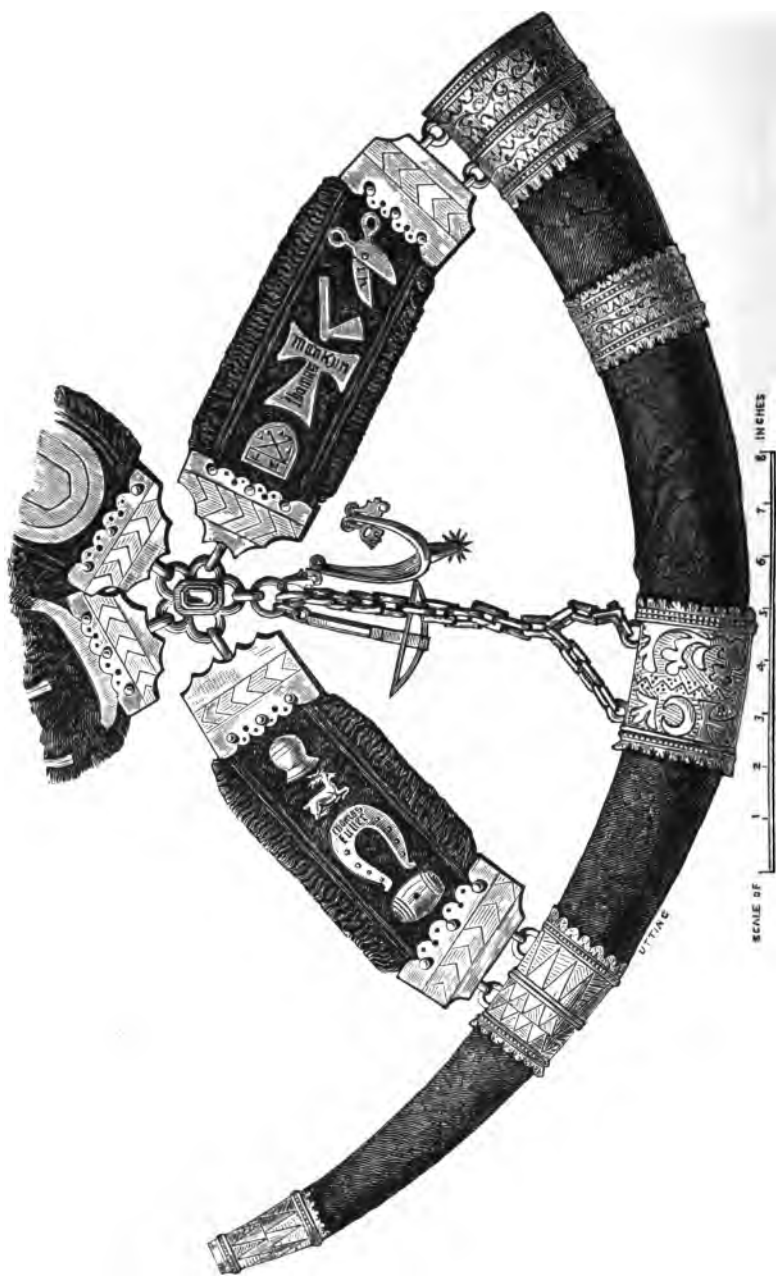
The incorporation of the borough has been already alluded to, as well as that reformation in 1835, by which it has obtained



BELT AND HORN OF THE WAKEMAN OF RIPON.







HORN AND PORTION OF THE BELT OF THE WAKEMAN OF RIPON.

neither an accession of influence or energy, but an additional element of excitement and contention, and the burdensome administration of formal provisions, unnecessary to the welfare or government of a small community. The Corporation now consists of a Mayor, four Aldermen, and twelve Councillors. The Mayor and his successors are Justices of the peace for the Borough, by virtue of the Act 5 and 6 William IV., c. 76, s. 57, together with other gentlemen named in her Majesty's commission dated 23rd September, 1854. The Mayor is also in the commission for the Liberty of Ripon, during his year of office.

If a visitor should remain in the city during the evening, he may hear the sounding of the Mayor's horn, one of the most ancient customs that lingers in the kingdom. It formerly announced the setting of the watch, whence the chief officer of the town derived his Saxon style of "Wakeman," but it has, of course, now lapsed into a formality. Three blasts, long, dull, and dire, are given at nine o'clock at the Mayor's door by his official Horn-blower, and one afterwards at the market-cross, while the seventh bell of the cathedral is ringing. It was ordained in 1598 that it should be blown, according to ancient custom, at the *four corners* of the cross, at nine o'clock; after which time, if any house "on the gate syd within the towne" was robbed, the Wakeman was bound to compensate the loss, if it was proved that he "and his servants did not their duetie at y^e time." To maintain this watch he received from every householder in the town that had but one door, the annual tax of twopence; but from the owner "of a gate door, and a backe dore iiijd by the year, of dutie." The original horn, worn by the Wakeman, decorated with silver badges and the insignia of the trading companies of the town, but shamefully pillaged in 1686, has been several times adorned, especially by John Aislabie, Esq., Mayor in 1702; and in 1854. Since the year 1607 it has been worn on certain days by the Serjeant-at-Mace, in procession.

In 1859 an official chain of gold was purchased by public subscription, and presented to Robert Kearsley, Esq., the

Mayor, for the use of himself and his successors. It is a very handsome ornament, and is decorated with the Ripon spur and other local badges. It cost nearly 250*l.*, and was made by Messrs. Hunt and Roskell.

The other corporate bodies and institutions in the city, may most conveniently be noticed, in surveying the places where they are held or administered.

COMMERCIAL POSITION.

THERE is no staple manufacture carried on in the city, unless the establishment of three individuals may be allowed to represent the saddle-tree making, carried on here as early as the time of Queen Elizabeth. After the manufacture of woollen cloth declined, in the sixteenth century, that of spurs was carried on with such skill and success that the phrase "As true as Ripon rowels"—applied to express the character of a man of honest principles—became proverbial throughout the kingdom. Ben Jonson in his "Staple of Newes, has"—

"Why, there's an angel, if my spurs
Be not right Rippon."

and Davenant, in his "Wits,"—

"Whip me with wire, beaded with rowels of
Sharp Rippon spurs."

This trade, together with that of button-making, and some other kinds of hardware, prospered throughout the seventeenth and part of the eighteenth century, but the advantages obtained in the great seats of general hardware manufacture, by the division of labour and a more liberal application of capital, at length caused its decline; Alderman John Terry, who occupied the site of the second house westward from the Town-hall, and died within recollection, having been the last spurrier. Subsequently, no kind of manufacture has been peculiarly followed in the city, though well directed and persevering individual exertion, in several branches of trade, has been successfully rewarded.

The weekly market is held on Thursday, and is well supplied with all kinds of agricultural produce of superior quality, large quantities of butter, eggs, and fowls being particularly required by agents for the manufacturing districts. There is a supplementary market on Saturday evening, for the sale of garden produce and butcher's meat ; and a wool market, held in the "Old Market-place," occasionally during the season.

There are fairs here, also, on the first Thursday after the 20th day succeeding old Christmas day ; on the 13th and 14th of May ; on the first Thursday and Friday in June ; on the first Thursday in November ; and on the 23rd of November, which is a general hiring day for servants. In 1863 a monthly stock sale for beasts, sheep, and pigs, was established by Mr. Francis Smith, auctioneer, and continues to be well patronised. A most graphic idea of the scenes enacted, occasionally, at the mediæval fairs here, may be gathered from an interesting narrative, published in "the Plumpton Correspondence."

From a very early period—doubtless far more remote than the thirteenth century, when there is record of the fact—Ripon seems to have been a noted place for horse-fairs, and the most spacious street in it is still called "the Horsefair," though it is now used rather for a periodical exhibition than the sale of horses. It also promoted, at a comparatively early period, the breeding of horses, by the establishment of races, a course being formed on the High Common, in 1713, at the expense of the Corporation. During the time of the Aislabies, they were well encouraged ; but subsequently fell off considerably in character, and finally were abandoned on the enclosure of the common in 1826. With a view chiefly to afford amusement at the annual feast of St. Wilfrid in August, they were re-established, on a new course on the opposite side of the river, in 1837, where they were held until 1864 ; when by reason of the encroachment of the river upon the course, they were removed to a more convenient site, to the west of the city, called Red Bank. Here a costly Grand Stand has been erected, the foundation stone of which was laid by the Mayor, (Mr. B. P. Ascough), on the 13th of February, 1865.

TOPOGRAPHICAL SURVEY.

THE general position of the city is sufficiently indicated by the map and the vignette at the head of our first chapter, showing its bearing with reference to the vale of Ure, and the great Yorkshire plain beyond. It will be sufficient, therefore, now, to say that Ripon stands, chiefly, on a sheltered situation, declining from the north-west towards the confluence of the river Ure with the Laver and the Skell. The geological stratification, in its immediate vicinity, is of the tertiary character, the city standing on the boundary between the new red-sandstone of the Yorkshire Plain, which shows itself prominently in a quarry beyond the railway station, and its great western terrace of magnesian limestone, which appears on the opposite side of the valley at Studley, Whitcliff, Morkershaw, and especially at Quarry Moor, where extensive lime-kilns have long been established. The soil, occasionally affording useful beds of clay, is generally of a gravelly nature, although there is much fertile land around the city, and trees show their satisfaction in its quality, both in their unusual size and exuberant foliage.

The antiquary Leland, who was here in the time of King Henry VIII., observed, and appearances still confirm his position, that "the olde towne of Ripon stode much by north and est" as he "could gather by viewing of it." Stammergate and Allhallowgate, from their proximity to the Monastery that was the germ of the town, were therefore indubitably the most ancient portion of it, and from them the dwellings diverged, until the Market-place, and its western and southern adjacencies were formed, before the sixteenth century. These later parts, in Leland's day, were "the best of the toune;" and he remarks, too, what few could have otherwise imagined, that "the very place wher the market stede and hart of the towne is, was sumtyme caulled holly hille, of holly trees ther

growing, wherby it apperith that this parte of the towne is of a newer buyldynges."

The plan and prospect of Ripon, recorded upwards of a hundred years ago, in the several works of Gent and Buck, exhibit much the same appearance as remained until the beginning of the present century, since which time many improvements have been effected by paving, flagging, and draining streets; the enclosing of the adjacent common lands; the rebuilding of many old, humble, and inconvenient houses; and the erection and embellishment of new ones, especially in the immediate environs. The era of re-construction preceding the present appears to have been during the seventeenth century; but the outline of the picturesque gable, which was so charming a feature in our old street architecture, is still unwittingly retained in many of the modern erections. Most of these fronts were but formed of timber frames, covered with lath and plaster—each story projecting over that below. One by one they have been gradually superseded by more convenient arrangements, and substantial materials; and, I believe, an ancient hostelry, in the north-west corner of the Market-place, remains now the least mutilated example.

Most of the Streets are narrow, like those of other ancient towns, where, originally, little more was required than passage for man and horse. The chief Market-place is very spacious, and nearly square, measuring at the widest points 115 yards by 81. It is adorned by a handsome Cross, 90ft. high, erected in 1781, by William Aislable, Esq., of Studley, who represented the borough in Parliament sixty years: and an elegant TOWN-HALL, of which more will be said hereafter.

“THE OLD ABBAY OF RIPON.”

WE have already noticed that Eata, abbot of Melrose, obtained, about the year 660, certain lands in Ripon, from Alchfrid, prince of Deira, whereon to construct and maintain a monastic establishment. The beginning of their career was, from their own report at least, deemed auspicious ; for their Hostillar, the holy monk Cuthbert, who accompanied the abbot and subsequently became the sainted patron of the church of Durham, is, in this place, said to have received and entertained an angel. The monks had scarcely erected their humble dwelling, and enjoyed the superior comforts and conveniences of their new situation, before Alchfrid their patron was dissatisfied at their method of ecclesiastical discipline, particularly their mode of computing the time of Easter. Having the option therefore given, whether to quit the place, or conform to his wishes, they chose the more independent alternative and departed.*

On this untoward circumstance, which occurred before 664, Prince Alchfrid bestowed the monastery, and the lands appurtenant to thirty dwellings, on one Wilfrid, whose learning and piety had captivated the monarch and his court ; and who henceforth, and from this circumstance, fills an important page, not only of the annals of the town, but of the whole Christian church.

Soon after Wilfrid had received this mark of royal approbation, he was ordained presbyter in this his monastery at Ripon, by Ægilbert, a foreign bishop who was visiting the Northumbrian court, and was desired by Alchfrid to perform the ceremony.

The intercourse of this monarch with Wilfrid, and the peculiar tendency of his own mind to adopt the ceremonial of the Church of Rome in several matters that agitated

* Eddij. Vit. Wilfridi, c. viii. Bede Eccl. Hist. L., v. c. 20, and L. iii, c. 25.

the clergy of this island, inclined him to join his father in holding a solemn synod, to deliberate and furnish just grounds whereby they might regulate the ecclesiastical practice of Northumbria in these particulars. This assembly met at Whitby in 664, King Oswi himself being present, who, although educated in the Scottish discipline, pronounced now in favour of the Church of Rome—fearing as he said, lest, when he presented himself at the gates of heaven, St. Peter might refuse admission to one who had otherwise counteracted the progress of his church on earth. The bishopric of York or Northumbria being vacant soon after, Wilfrid, who had shewn much zeal and ability in supporting the Romish cause at the Synod, was elected to that important office.

Holding that the British bishops were no better than schismatics, as not in communion with the Church of Rome, he was allowed his request to receive consecration from some of the many bishops of France: but, having enjoyed their congenial society longer than was agreeable to his royal patron, Ceadda was placed in the archiepiscopal chair; and when Wilfrid returned he found himself obliged to retire to his monastery of Ripon,* which it seems, he made his occasional home for three years—being, during a portion of that time, engaged in missionary labours among the South Saxons. Theodore, Archbishop of Canterbury, at length visited Northumbria, and Wilfrid was reinstated in his archiepiscopal station.

Soon after his elevation, he began to embody those dignified views and principles of architecture, which he had acquired in his continental tours, in the improvement of his cathedral church at York; and immediately after, it would seem, from the consecutive narrative of his chaplain,† he determined to erect a new monastery at Ripon: Of what form and extent the old abbey had been, is of course unknown. Its site, occupying upwards of two acres and a half, is still circumscribed, as I presume, by a portion of Stammergeate, Priest-lane, and a nameless road on the south; and the particular portion of it where the church is supposed to have stood is indicated by two poplar trees, planted

* Eddij Vita Wilfridi, c. xiv.

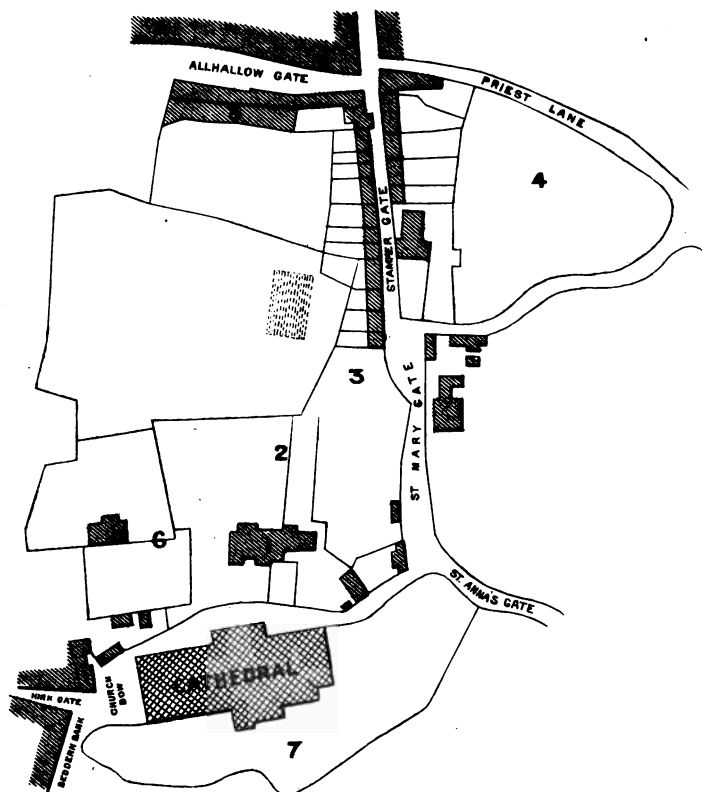
† Ibid, c. xvii.

there by the late Dean of Ripon; to whose church, this field, still called "Scots Monument Yard," yet belongs. The buildings were undoubtedly of wood—judging alike from the fashion of the Scots,† and the ability of the times. The raised platform by the trees seems composed of gravel; but there are foundations diverging from thence that have disclosed large stones. Several Saxon stycas, of the Northumbrian king Ethelred, have been dug up in this field; and a portion of a cylindrical column of grit stone, 4ft. 5in. in circumference. This might, however, have formed part of some subsequent oratory.

Wilfrid, from some cause now unintelligible, chose the site of his new foundation about 200 yards from the old building; and on the western side of what is now, and might even then have been, the public street. We know not how he, whose soul was filled with enthusiastic resolves and lofty inspirations, developed and bodied forth the dreams and designs that had been excited by the triumphant and immortal piles of the ruined City of the World: still, there can be no reasonable doubt that he erected here one of the most stately structures in the island. An account of its appearance would now be as inestimable as it is ir retrievable. Even Eddius, who had ministered many years within its walls, is content to describe them in brief terms, and—anxious rather to record the exalted piety than the scientific acquirements of his master—has left us to draw our own conclusions from a knowledge that it was built of wrought or polished stone; and that divers columns and porticos entered into its construction. William of Malmesbury also, amid the more elegant erections of after ages, records its curious arches, fine pavements, and winding recesses. Yet these particulars, combined with the fact that Wilfrid brought workmen from Italy who wrought in the Roman manner, and guided by the description Richard, Prior of Hexham, gives of that church, which was built by Wilfrid in 674, will afford us a tolerable idea of the celebrated monastery of Ripon.

† Bede says that when Finan built the church of Lindisfarne, "*More Scottorum, non de lapide, sed de robore secto totam composuit atque arundine intexit.*"—*HIST. ECCLES. L. iii., c. xxiv.*

RELATIVE POSITION OF SITE OF OLD ABBEY OF RIPON
AND THE PRESENT CATHEDRAL.



REFERENCE.

1. The Deanery.
2. The Deanery Gardens.
3. The site of the "Old Abbey of Ripon," bounded on the East by Huby's Wall.
4. The supposed site of Eata's Monastery.
5. The site of the Church of Allhallows.
6. The site of the Archbishop of York's Palace.
7. The Burial Ground of the Cathedral.

On the completion of the structure, Archbishop Wilfrid dedicated it in honour of St. Peter, by a solemn and splendid ceremonial. The king Ecgfrid and his brother Ælwin dignified the occasion by their presence, and were accompanied by a vast retinue of the Princes and Nobles of the realm. Before this august assembly, Wilfrid, mindful of the example of Solomon when about to dedicate his great temple, prayed first after the sublime manner of that wisest of men, that God might sanctify the house which he had built, and the prayers of the faithful for ever after offered therein. Next he dedicated the altar, on which he placed a cover of purple, wrought with gold embroidery; and, having arranged thereon the sacramental vessels, administered the holy Eucharist to the marvelling congregation. He then stood up before the altar, and animated the beneficence, and refreshed the memory of his auditory, by narrating to them the lands which the king had previously bestowed upon the church; and others which by the assent and subscription of the Bishops and Princes had been on that day given to it—reminding them, at the same time, of the churches in divers places that had remained desecrated since the British clergy had fled from them. The prelate's discourse being ended, the multitude went to a banquet, which, after the still lingering rites of paganism, lasted three days and three nights—the prince and the peasant joining together in rude and unconstrained hilarity and mirth.

The lands wherewith the church was thus endowed were said by Eddius,* in his dubious orthography, to be situated "*juxta Rippel & in Gaedyne & in regione Dunitinga & in Caetlevum in cæterisque locis.*" On this very curious passage much may be observed. My present purpose only allows me to remark that if "Rippel" is to be understood as signifying the river Ribble in Lancashire, its Roman appellation of Belisarna seems by this time to have been forgotten.

The church also now received from its munificent founder, a library of books, whose covers were adorned with gold and jewels; and a pre-eminently superb copy of the four Gospels,

* Vita S. Wilfridi, c. xvii.

which he had caused to be written on purple vellum, in letters of gold, and enshrined in a refulgent casket of the same metal. This collection, one of the earliest, as well as one of the richest in the kingdom, was remaining in the abbey of Ripon when Eddius wrote, and is commemorated by him in terms of enthusiastic delight.

The foundation of this memorable structure seems to have occurred between the first regnal year of King Ecgfrid, 670, and 678, when that monarch, by the advice of his wife, persuaded Theodore, Archbishop of Canterbury, to depose Wilfrid; who then departed to Rome to receive justice from the Pope. Theodore substituted two Bishops in his stead—Bosa having his see at York, and Eata that at Hexham or Lindisfarne. At the same time he ordained, at York, Eadhead, Bishop of Sidnacester; and three years after Wilfrid's departure, placed Trumbert over the church of Hexham, and Trumwine over the province of the Picts†—Eata being removed to Lindisfarne.

Still deeming that a more minute supervision was required, the Church of Ripon was constituted an episcopal see, and Eadhead, who had returned from Sidnacester, was appointed its Bishop.‡

Wilfrid at length returned from Rome, with a record of the Pope's judgment in his favour; but it was not until Ecgfrid and Theodore were in their graves that he could avail himself of its reasonable provisions. Aldfrid, who succeeded to the throne, was moved to recall Wilfrid, about the year 687, to his monastery and possessions at Hexham; and for a while, according to the Papal decree, to his see of York and monastery of Ripon. •

After several years, chequered by alternate periods of enmity and friendship, the disinclination of Wilfrid to the change of this his monastery of St. Peter into an episcopal see, and his attempts to recover the territories and lands of which it had been divested, were so represented by his enemies to the King,

† Bedæ Hist. Eccl., l. iv., c. 12, Wheloc, 291.

‡ Ibid.—“Rhipensi ecclesiæ præfecit.” Ibid. l. iii., c. 28, “Hrypensis ecclesiæ præsul factus est.”

that he was compelled to leave the realm. At a Synod, that was held soon after in Northumbria, he was offered the possession of his favourite monastery of Ripon, on condition that he should not pass beyond its limits. With this insufficient offer he was justly dissatisfied, and appealed once more, to demand redress from the supreme Pontiff at Rome.

But the thunder of the Vatican rolled away unheeded over the stern Aldfrid's head, until irremediable disease subdued his passions and awakened his fears. He then charged Berecfrid, the guardian of his infant son Osred, to render justice to Wilfrid, and expired.

When the haven of peace seemed thus won at last, still another storm arose. Eadwulf, an adventurous noble, intruded himself on the throne of Northumbria; and when Wilfrid, after his long exile, sought a peaceful retirement at Ripon, the usurper drove him rudely away, and threatened to slay such of his attendants as dared to remain here, after the expiration of six days. Two months, however, established the guardian's delegated authority; and in the first year of Osred's reign, he joined Berthwald, Archbishop of Canterbury in holding a Synod, which should bring about a final pacification. The assembly met not far from the river Nidd, and, as I imagine, in or near the village that still bears that name; when, after much consultation, it was agreed that Wilfrid should be restored to the enjoyment of his ever-cherished monasteries of Ripon and Hexham, with all their appurtenant possessions.

Sixty years of warfare and vicissitude sweetened the brief rest that was now allotted him on earth. At length he declared his will touching the disposition of his estate; and nominated Tatberht, his kinsman, to succeed in the abbacy of Ripon, where he then sojourned. On departing hence, soon after, he was taken ill at the abbey of Oundle, in Northamptonshire; and on the 12th of Oct., 711, in the 76th year of his age, felt his hour had come. Having then bestowed his benediction on those that stood around him, "even as Jacob blessed his sons," he turned his head calmly to the pillow, and so, without a murmur or a groan, passed away from this troublous scene. The

monks that were singing day and night in the adjacent choir, had repeated at the moment the 31st verse of the 103rd Psalm ; while they who witnessed the solemn scene deemed, in the excited distraction of their hearts, that they heard the approaching sound of viewless wings that should bear that great spirit home.

According to his own particular request his body was conveyed to Ripon for interment. All the members of the monastery went out, bearing their holy relics, to receive the mourning procession ; and, joining them in the Psalms they were singing, thus conducted the venerated remains to the church, where they were deposited on the south side of the altar.

Of this most extraordinary man, this is not the place or the occasion further to speak ; and I know not whither to refer the curious enquirer for a minute and elaborate biography of one, who deserves that pious care more than any character of the Anglo-Saxon period. Interesting memoirs have, indeed, appeared from several most able pens ; but, more with reference to the importance of his position in controverted theological enquiries and in the history of ancient science, than in general, comprehensive and philosophical detail. For this, it is fortunate for us that the remembrance of Bede and the piety of Eddius have preserved an original and solid foundation. In the heated atmosphere of religious controversy, the pure spirit of christian charity has frequently evaporated, and left his name tarnished with imputations of avarice, and arrogance, and pride. Without questioning how far the original and contemporary sources of information warrant those aspersions ; or enquiring how justly his injudicious efforts to augment and maintain the welfare and authority of the temporal church, have been misrepresented ; or, the intentions of a mind anxious to introduce to a rude and unappreciating people the elegant arts and refinements he had acquired in foreign lands, have been slandered and condemned ; I would remark, that they who dilate on the indecorous splendour of his mansions, and the number of his attendants, forgot that from thence he often went out barefoot, to teach poor and indigent men, and left his services of sump-

tuous plate, to practice the most rigid austerities, and to partake of the humblest fare: that thence, the priceless fountain of literature flowed to refresh a weary and thirsty land; and that there daily issued from those attendants, the artists and artisans of works we are even yet anxious to behold. That after it is maliciously recounted how indignantly he crossed the seas to maintain the just authority, of which the violence of envious and turbulent men would have divested him, it is but meagrely told to us how often and meekly he journeyed to diffuse the Gospel among the remnant of our unchristianized population. And, above all, I would more willingly commemorate the untiring devotion, the unflinching resolution, the daring enthusiasm with which this ardent soul pressed forward—through trials and temptations, and discouragements, that we cannot now understand, and difficulties, and dangers, and oppressions that are now forgotten—to propagate, in a dark and gloomy and perilous age, that creed and faith, which,—though we may deem it to be vested in the guise of the world, and obscured by the errors of men—was, to his intent and belief and hope and purpose, the everlasting word of God.

Nothing memorable is recorded of those who succeeded Wilfrid in the abbacy of Ripon. If Tylbert, mentioned by Eadmer in his "*Vita Oswaldi*," be synonymous with Tatberht, whom Eddius says the prelate appointed, it would appear he enjoyed that dignity, though in contravention of the strict Benedictine rule. His successor, "the venerable Botwine," died in the midst of his sorrowing brethren in 785 or 6; when Alberht was chosen, who, after the brief rule of one year, resigned the office with his life. After him came Sigred; and then Wilgend, with whom this brief list must end.

Near the outer gates of this monastery, in 792, Eardulf, a Northumbrian noble, was stabbed by the command, or, as some say, by the hand of Ethelred his king. The monks, compassionating his fate, bore him with solemn dirges to the church, and placed his body in the porch. The murderous weapon had missed its deadly aim; and, after midnight, the monks had the gratification to discover the intended victim alive in their

church. After four years spent, as some affirm, in concealment in this monastery, he ascended the throne of Northumbria.

King Athelstane, as I have previously observed, granted certain valuable immunities to the monastery of Ripon; the particulars of which are defined in two charters of that monarch, printed by Dodsworth and Dugdale in their *Monasticon*. I presume, however, that both these documents were fabrications of much later days,* and framed more in the nature of an *inspeximus*, than that of an original grant, particularly the one in prose, which is witnessed by "G," or Geoffrey, Archbishop of York, and natural son of King Henry II.† By the rhyming charter, which is a curious specimen of English verse, as written at the end of the thirteenth century, the valuable privilege of sanctuary was conceded to the church.

On ilke side the kyrke a mile
For all ill deedes and ylke agyle,
And within yair kyrke yate,
At ye stan yat grithstole hate,
Within ye kirke dore and ya quare

Yair have pees for les and mare
Ilkan of yis stedes sal have pees,
Of Frodmortel and ils deeds
Yat yair don is, &c.

Together with the ordeal of fire and water; freedom from tax and tribute; and other immunities.

The boundary of this place of refuge, commensurate with the "Leuga S. Wilfridi" of Domesday, was marked, at the end of the thirteenth century, by *eight* crosses surrounding the church, and called mile crosses; where, at the latter period, the Archbishop of York claimed that his bailiffs had the right to meet the homicide, who should flee thither; and, after administering to him the necessary oath, to admit him within the privileged jurisdiction. The position of three only are now distinguished. Athelstane's cross was situate on the road between Ripon and Nunwick, by a field still called Athelstane-close. The stump of Archangel cross was lately sunk in the hedge of a lane leading from the Navigation bridge to Bondgate; and Sharow cross still remains entire in the highway from Ripon to that village, in a pleasant and shady nook, where the

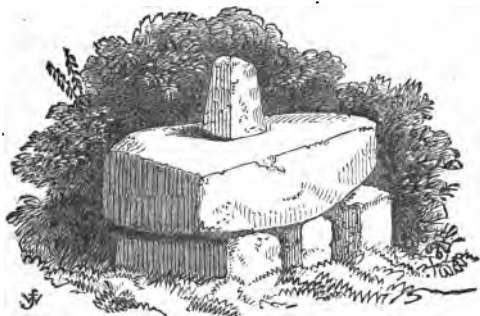
* Mon. Ang. i., 172.

† In the "Remains concerning Britain," p. 198, it is observed, this Bishop Geoffrey, in all his instruments passing from him, used the style of "G. archiepiscopus Eborum."

eye may be still further gratified by a charming prospect of the majestic river winding at the foot of a gentle declivity ; and the city and cathedral rising imposingly from the wooded copses beyond. Another nameless cross formerly stood on the farther side of Bishopton toll-gate ; but whether one of this series I cannot at present ascertain. The girthstool that stood in the church, and conferred the last degree of security on its occupant, is now destroyed, and I am unable to say in what part of the choir it stood.

This peculiar franchise was sought even after the several statutes of King Henry VIII. had curtailed its benefits ; for I have seen it notified in some Chancery proceedings, in 1539, that, after the abduction of the plaintiff's wife, and the robbery of his plate, the culprit had fled to the then insufficient sanctuary at Ripon.

The monastery had no sooner received these valuable immunities than it was doomed to irretrievable destruction ; for in 948-50, when king Edred devastated the North, in punishment of the perfidious people, it was utterly destroyed by fire, and rendered no longer tenable.



SANCTUARY CROSS, SHAROW, NEAR RIPON.

“THE CHAPELLE OF OUR LADY.”

YET the ruin of the “Old Abbay of Ripon” was not entirely abandoned to desolation. A chapel was founded there, no doubt, within the walls of some portion that was left undisturbed—for the ravages of Edred could scarcely have extended to the shell of the building—and Leland has left us the following circumstantial account of what otherwise would have perished irretrievably.

“The old abbay of Ripon,” says he, “stode where now is a chapelle of our Lady, in a botom one close distant by . . . from the new minstre.

“One Marmaduke, abbate of Fountaines, a man familiar with Salvage, archebishop of York (1501-7), obtained this chapelle of hym and prebendaries of Ripon; and, having it gyven onto hym and to his abbay, *pulled down the est end of it, a pece of exceding auncient wark*, and buildid a fair pece of new werk with squarid stones for it, *leving the west ende of very old werk standing*.

“He began also and finished a very fair high waul of squarid ston at the est end of the garth that this chapel stondeth yn: *and had thought to have inclosyd the hole garth with a lyke waulle, and to have made there a cell of white monks*. There lyethe one of the Englebys in the este end of this chapell, and here lyith another of them yn the chapelle garthe, and in the chapel singith a cantuarie prest.

“One thing I much notid, that was, 3 crossis standing in row at the este ende of the chapelle garth. *They were things antiquissimi operis*, and monumentes of some notable men buried there, so that of al the old monasterie of Ripon and the toun I saw no likely tokens left after the depopulation of the

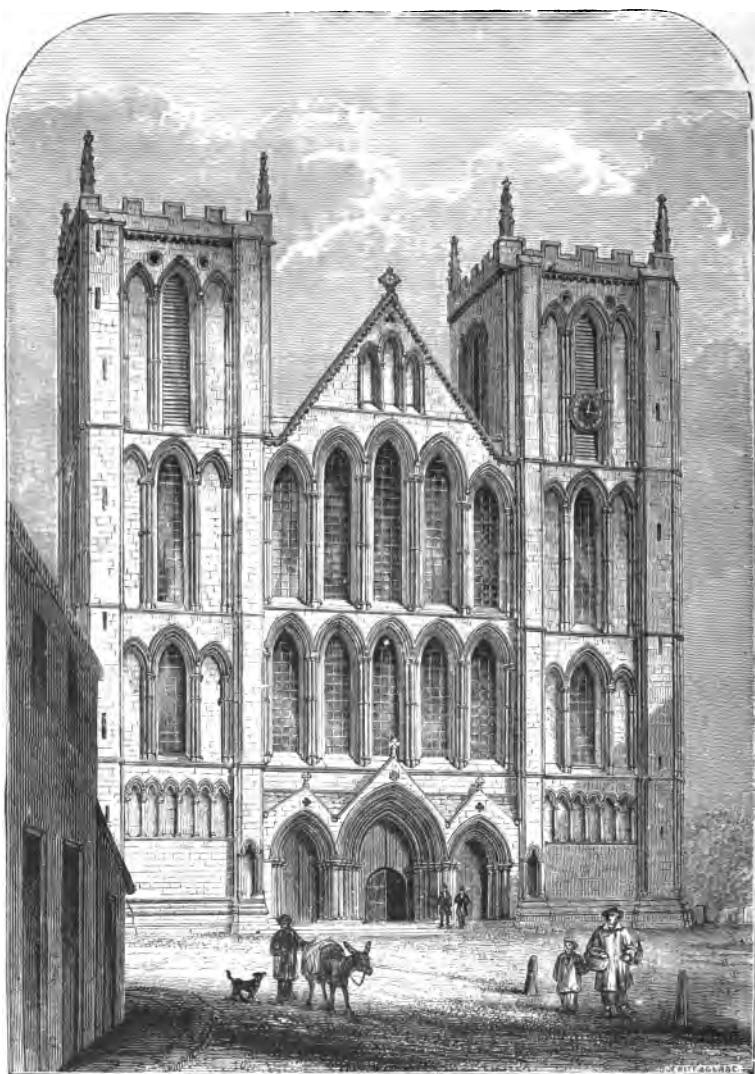
Danes in that place, *but only the waulles of our Lady chapelle and the crossis.*"

From returns made at the time of the Reformation it would appear that the "Cantuarie" was the only foundation connected with "the Chapelle called the Lady Church in Stammergeate." It was founded Feb. 15th, 1392, by John Clint and Robert Durham, priests, "to the intent to pray for the sowles of the founders and all X'pen sowles, and to say masse and other suffrages in the sayde chapel or church contynuallye." It is also added in the certificate that "the necessitie is to say masse in the said chapell, and to pray for the sowles of the founders, *and in tyme of plague for the savegard of the parochiens to here masse in the same.*"

The indefatigable antiquary was no doubt correct in his supposition; and little did he imagine, as he viewed the venerable remains, which would have thrown a most vivid light on the interesting subject of Saxon architecture, could we now see them as he did, that in a few years, the "fair pece of new werk, and the pece of exceding auncient wark," would be involved in one common ruin. The foundation having been suppressed in 1547, the fabric became, no doubt, a quarry for all who were wicked enough to remove "the remnants of the shattered pile;" though, I am afraid, the hands of false friends contributed not a little to its demolition. There is now nothing above ground to mark the site. Abbot Hubby's wall, which merits Leland's encomium of a fair piece of work, remains, enclosing the "chapelle garth," which forms part of the Deanery garden and paddock. I have reason to believe the foundations and outline of the Saxon monastery might still be traced, and such an operation on a building, whose pre-eminent antiquity is so well ascertained, could not fail to be deeply interesting. A few small and curious tesserae of the floor were discovered on this site in 1837. A more interesting relic was dug up on the high road adjacent to the old religious house a few years ago. It is a fragment of a sepulchral cross, bearing a portion of an inscription which it is not easy to decypher. It is now in the possession of Mr. H. Sharpin, of Ripon.

Leland, referring to a site about two hundred yards north west of the Monastery, says "there hath bene, about the north part of the olde towne, a paroch church of the name of Alhallows." There neither is, nor is remembered to have been the trace of such a building on Allhallowgate Hill; but in using the ground as a gravel pit the skeletons of many bodies, which have received Christian burial, have been discovered; and on the breast of one of them an iron cross, evidently fabricated at a very early period.





RIPON CATHEDRAL. WEST FRONT.

THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PETER AND ST. WILFRID.



OT long after the destruction of Wilfrid's monastery, Leland informs us it was "the commune opinion" in his day, that "Odo, Archbishop of Cantewarbyri, (Canterbury) cumming ynto the Northe partes with King.....(Edred?) had pitie on the desolation of Ripon chirch, and began, or causid a new work to be edified wher the Minstre now is;" but that no part of this structure then remained. Odo himself, in his preface to Frithgod's Metrical Life of Wilfrid, also informs us that, on visiting the old Monastery, he found the grave of Wilfrid in a state of scandalous and indecent neglect; and removed his bones to a proper receptacle in his metropolitan church. This statement has, nevertheless, been questioned.

In consequence of the Danish ravages in 995, Aldune, Bishop of Chester-le-street, attended by his clergy, fled to Ripon in the Spring of that year, bringing with them the body of St. Cuthbert, "and the various treasures with which it and they had been enriched." After sojourning here three or four months they returned to the North, and settled, by the direction of a miracle as they pretended, on a well fortified site, where soon arose the first cathedral church of Durham.

There is no evidence to show that the restored church of Ripon was handed over to any order of monks. If they had the charge of it, they did not retain it long. Between 1060 and 1069 Aldred, archbishop of York, and lord of this manor, had founded certain prebends in the church, either in addition to

a previous number, or as an original endowment and foundation, and these canons of St. Wilfrid were in the enjoyment of their privileges when the Domesday survey was made. In 1106 Osbert, sheriff of Yorkshire, endeavoured to disturb their franchise; but Gerard, the archbishop, reported the circumstance to the king, who issued a commission to enquire into their validity, which was subsequently confirmed.

In the beginning of the century succeeding the Norman Conquest, Archbishop Thurstan gave to the "church of St. Wilfrid" one carucate of land, "in dedicatione," and also two oxgangs of land in Sharow, for the foundation of a prebend that has since borne that name. An erroneous interpretation of the intent of the former donation has induced the general statement, most prominently developed in the seventeenth volume of the *Archæologia*, that Thurstan *built* the Collegiate Church of Ripon; and that, except the additions and alterations in the Decorated and Perpendicular style, it remains a monument of his genius and liberality to this day.

This noble work, I have, however, had the pleasure to ascertain, is another of the many benefits which the see of York derived from the Pontificate of the wealthy and talented Roger of Pont l' Evêque, who held it from 1154 to 1181; for the chroniclers have recorded comparatively nothing of one whose generosity and piety, in raising the ancient choir of York Cathedral, and the adjacent collegiate chapel of St. Sepulchre, will now acquire, at the distance of nearly seven centuries, the honour of another most important work. It was fortunate, therefore, that in this instance he has not suffered from their neglect; for in a record which he caused to be prepared, he has himself notified—"quod dedimus operi beati Wilfridi de Ripon ad ædificandam basilicam ipsius quam *de novo inchoavimus* mille libras veteris monetæ." With this treasure* a noble pile was begun, as is still evident in those members of it which remain in the transepts, and north-west portions of the choir.

* This was not the whole of the Archbishop's benefaction, for it appears from a charter s. d., that the charter gave to Ralph the Smith, for his service, one toft near the gate of the cemetery towards the west, which Roger the Archbishop gave to the works of the church.

We are not informed how much of the structure was perfected before the Archbishop's decease, though the state of the nave at that period seems only doubtful. After the plan, originally devised by Roger, was completed, the elegant taste and ample resources of some benefactor (probably Archbishop Walter Gray,) dissatisfied with the tall nave, terminating abruptly without aisles on the west, renewed that front in the lancet style, and produced a noble and imposing façade, by the addition of a tower on each side, adorned with lofty spires of timber and lead. The centre tower had, perhaps, been originally adorned by a similar termination, though of much less altitude.

About fifty years had probably elapsed since the completion of the church, when an important alteration was projected in it; and on the 15th of February, 1288, Archbishop Romaine granted an indulgence of forty days to such persons as should contribute to the work. As the language of this class of documents is generally exaggerated, its report that the church was "*ruinosa et reparatione indiget*" must be received with caution; the probability being greater that the archbishop and the canons longed for an opportunity of reconstructing the eastern portion of the choir, in that glorious style which was then in its first development from the Early English. That this was the portion of the fabric operated upon is evident enough from the work itself; but a mandate from the archbishop and the chapter in 1297, to pay the debt they had incurred by the erecting of their new chancel, shows also that their zeal had exceeded their means. It is probable too that they had some difficulty in acceding to the archbishop's demands, for on the 17th of June, 1300, another indulgence was granted on behalf of the church.

Thus efficiently completed, the church remained in beauty and strength until the inroad of the Scots, in 1319, when they set fire to the building, and destroyed some of its inmates.

At this time William de Melton, who had endeavoured to repulse the Scots, held the archiepiscopal staff with a firm and apostolic hand. His generosity and efficient patronage of architectural science confirm the statement that he applied

himself to the reparation of the misfortune, and the eastern portion of the choir is pointed to as his work.

Though the injuries caused by the Scots had not probably extended beyond the roofs, screens, stalls, and other inflammable portions of the building, the work of renovation and amplification proceeded slowly. We do not learn how the valiant Archbishop Zouch, who resided awhile at his palace here, encouraged his canons in the undertaking; but immediately after the appointment of the great Thoresby to the archiepiscopal chair, he issued, 26th October, 1354, his letters of request to Thomas Button and others, to collect the charitable alms of all faithful and well disposed persons within the diocese of York, to the use of the fabric of this church, and, with the money thus obtained, the work was no doubt completed.

A century had but just elapsed before the canons were again called upon to repel the attacks of an enemy more insidious and irresistible than the violence of man. The lantern tower, "which at first was so sumptuously built, was then, as well by neglect of workmen that first made it, as by thunder, and frequent storms and tempests, so much shaken and broken that the greatest part thereof was already fallen, and the rest expected to follow, if no speedy remedy was applied." The fabric fund being unable to meet the emergency, William Booth, archbishop of York, was moved, on the 4th of February, 1459, 37 Henry VI., to grant an indulgence of forty days to all such as should afford their charitable relief towards the re-edification, construction, and sustentation of the said steeple.

The rebuilding of the steeple was not fully accomplished. The south and east sides, which called for immediate restoration, were rebuilt after a noble and elegant design; and a preparation, that now disfigures the interior of the nave, denotes that the rest was intended to be removed; but the east wall of the transept, and the southern portion of the choir contiguous to the vitiated angle of the tower, seem to have demanded such immediate attention, that I presume it was deemed more advisable to expend the funds in their reconstruction, than in the completion of the tower. The arms of the see of York, Fountains Abbey, the

families of Pigot of Clotherholme, and Norton of Norton, that adorned the late wooden ceiling of the south transept, showed who were the chief contributors to this work. The masses of masonry that had been projected from the tower, had, it is probable, so mutilated the rood-screen and the wooden lattices of the choir, with their contiguous stalls, that a new series of stalls was begun in 1489, and completed in 1494, about which period the rood-screen and sedilia were erected. The Lady-loft likewise was built before 1482.

Having thus vigorously "set their hand to the plough," our canons proceeded with that enthusiasm and lofty unity of purpose that actuated, so triumphantly, the architectural works of those earlier days, and next turned their attention to the ruined condition of the nave. Its monotonous length, inaccordant with the aisled amplitude of the rest of the structure, probably suggested its removal, rather than its restoration; and it must be allowed that he who was selected to prepare the new design, wrought with no ordinary or unskilful hand.

The precise time when the work was commenced is at present unknown. The arms of Pigot of Clotherholme, in conjunction with those of the town, on the lower portion of one of the pillars, have been supposed to indicate that this part was erected while Randolph Pigot was wakerman, in 1471; but this is doubtful authority. A local chronicle, written in 1615, says that, "on the 6th day of Februarie, 1502, did the Chapter of the Church of Rippon make ordinances & statutes for the re-paire & re-edifying of the same *being at that tyme in great decaye & ruine*;" and the arms of Savage, archbishop of York, and those of his successor, Bainbridge, as a Cardinal, are good evidence that an interval of at least nine years elapsed before its completion. Leland, who was at Ripon about 1534, observed "the body of the church of *late dayes*, made of a great widnesse by the treasour of the church and the gentilmen of the cuntry."

On the 1st of October, 1537, Archbishop Lee sequestered certain revenues of the church for the purpose of repairing the chapter house, which was represented to be in a very ruinous

condition. It may be doubted, however, whether the work was commenced, unless it is now represented by the subsidiary masonry which supports the vaulting of the Norman crypt below.

Even when an unprophetic eye might note the surging clouds of an impending and most fearful reformation, the Chapter once more met under the presidency of the rich and learned Bradley, late abbat of Fountains, and suffragan bishop of Hull, to deliberate on the renovation of a pile in which they could not reasonably predict that their imposing rites and ceremonies could be celebrated long. On Sunday the 31st of October, 1546, they set apart a certain portion of their revenue to repair the belltower and wall of the north aisle,* which threatened to fall; but before their plan could be brought into operation, the structure had passed into ruthless and unfriendly hands.

It is foreign to my purpose to enumerate the property wherewith the Church was endowed at its dissolution in 1547; and that is the less necessary, since a detailed account of the revenue of the fabric, and of its several members, is afforded in the return made to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners in 1535; and published in the "*Valor Ecclesiasticus*." The establishment at this latter period consisting of seven secular canons, each stall having a vicar choral annexed, *excepting that of Stanwick*; three deacons; three subdecons; and nine cantarists; six thuribulers and sub-thuribulers; six choristers; a seneschal; registrar; sacristan; and several inferior officers.

The prebends were severally named after the place where the chief portion of their tithes and rents was derived. "Thorpe and Haddocstones," "Nunwick and Sutton," "Stanwick," "Skelton and Givendale," Monkton Episcopi, Sharow, and Studley. That of Stanwick was more modern than the rest, but it was the "golden prebend." It was endowed with very considerable tithes in that parish, by Archbishop Walter Gray,

* This must apply to the choir, the nave being but just rebuilt. The words of the act of Chapter are "*Sunt nonnulli defectus et ruinositates apertæ tam campanilis quam muri lapidis insulæ borealis ejusd'm eccl'ie qui irrumpunt*," &c. Yet the choir exhibits no particular work of that date, and is still in no danger.

13 November, 1230, who had deprived the Convent of Easby thereof, in consequence of that very extraordinary and scandalous outrage, which is detailed by Dr. Whitaker in his *Richmondshire*, from the chartulary of that house. It is remarkable, however, that this important sequel of the story is suppressed, and the great historian was not otherwise or further informed on the subject. The Prebendary of Stanwick was perpetual Rector of the choir; and that of Monkton Treasurer of the Collegiate Church. Archbishops Greenfield, Bowet, and Geo. Neville dignified these stalls, prior to their advancement to the mitre; and here also Bubwith, Sherwood, and Legh developed their memorable talents, before their succession to the several Sees of London, Durham, and Litchfield. The celebrated Peter de Blois was a Canon of Ripon.

The precise position of all the Chantry Chapels in the Church has not yet been ascertained; nor the time when each was founded discovered. Those of St. James, St Thomas, and St. Wilfrid are dubious in both particulars. David de Wollore, Canon of Ripon and Master of St. John's Hospital here, founded a chantry in the north transept, at the altar of St. Andrew, 29th March, 1369. John de Sherwood founded a chantry at the altar of St. John the Evangelist, 20th February, 1364. That of the Holy Trinity, above the "High Altar," was of the foundation of Sir William Plumpton, of Plumpton, Knt., in 1345; and that of the Trinity below the altar, or in the crypt, of the foundation of John Sendal, a canon of the church, who ordained many pious and prudent regulations for its prosperity, which were confirmed by Archbishop Neville in the time of Edward IV. The chantry of the Assumption of the Blessed Mary was constituted by John Fulthorpe; and that "in Lady Loft" to which no other name is assigned in the Valor of 1535, was, I presume with much hesitation, of the foundation of John Radclyffe and Bryan Batty, of Hewick, who as it is recited in a deed in 1520, were "stirred to have one perpetual priest to say mass in *ye chapel or loft of St. George.*" This cantarist was enjoined daily to say "placebo, dirige, and commendacion," for certain souls, and on "all feasts, double

feasts, sundays, and holly days, should be in the chore, of the sd coll. at matyns, mass, and evynsong, and to be at all the processions of the same, ande to have one abbit after suche fourme as the roode preists within the saide churche hath, with Saynt George on horsbacke uppon the brest of the said abbit embrowdered." Gent says the chantry of St. James was founded by Wm. Cawood, a canon of Ripon, and John Dene, prebendary of Stanwick. The curious will of this former person, who was an eminent diplomatist, dated 3rd February, 1419, has been published by the Surtees Society; and discloses the interesting fact that his books were to be sold to aid the erection of the altar screen of York Minster. He bequeathed a copy of Cassiodorus super Psalterium to the Church, for the use of its ministers, desiring that it might be chained before the prebendal stalls of Thorpe and Stanewyge, for ever. John de Dene died in 1435.

Among the several sources whence the fabric fund was derived, not the least profitable then, and worthy of investigation now, was that contributed by pilgrims to the SHRINE OF ST. WILFRID, whose sepulture in this church seems to have been hitherto absolutely forgotten. During the recent restoration of the chancel some fragments of sculpture, which seemingly were portions of a shrine, were discovered beneath the pavement, on the south side of the high altar. Wilfrid's shrine may have stood there, although the very fact of the saint's resting here at all has been denied. Archbishop Odo, of Canterbury, in his preface to Frithgode's metrical life of Wilfrid, states, or is made to state, that he removed him from Ripon to his Cathedral Church; where it has been ever subsequently affirmed that he was enshrined on the north side of the St. Thomas' Chapel, near Becket's Crown, and under the monument of Cardinal Pole. This was denied at an early period by those who favoured the pretensions of the see of York, in the ancient controversy as to the Primacy of all England, on the ground that it was Archbishop Wilfrid the Second that was removed. Leland quotes a Chronicle, that gives Dunstan, the arch fiend's opponent, the honour of translating Wilfrid; but he elsewhere

states that he rested at Ripon, together with St. Acca and St. Egelsi, Bishops, St. Egbert and St. Ythburga. St. Acca, however, we know was interred in his own church at Hexham. It is to be objected, also, on the part of Ripon, that John, Prior of Hexham, in narrating the violent entry of Alan, earl of Richmond, into Ripon Minster in 1144, particularly remarks that he insulted Archbishop William "secus corpus beati Wilfridi;" though this again is discordant with the record of Eadmer, who, in his Life of St. Oswald, the Archbishop of York, recounts with much minuteness, his translation by that prelate, to his own church, in consequence of the disgraceful state of that of Ripon. If, however, this latter statement is, as it seems to be, of authority, the truth of this long contested history is now discovered; for I possess the transcript of a certificate of Archbishop Walter Grey, dated at Otley, 21st January, 1224, wherein, *believing in the ancient removal by Oswald* he records that, at the request of the Canons of Ripon, he had translated him to their Church, no portion of his bones, either great or small, being as he believed deficient; and furthermore had caused the head to be exposed and left uncovered to strengthen the faith and increase the devotion of the beholders—each of whom, on penitentiary confession of his sins, was to have a relaxation of thirty days, counting from the day of the translation. In what part of the old choir the Canons provided a receptacle for the remains of their great patron may be for ever unknown; yet, that it was notorious that he rested here is evident, if only from King Henry the fifth's grant to the Vicars Choral of Ripon, which he says he made for the love and affection that he bore to the memory of St. Wilfrid, who lay buried in their church; and that his tomb or shrine was resorted to, is demonstrated by the entry of "Oblac' ad rubiam sistam ad pedes Sc'i Wilfridi," in all the long series of fabric rolls to the time of the Dissolution—a passage which I cannot otherwise explain.

This was not the only forgotten means by which the Canons were enabled to gratify their architectural inclinations. They possessed an instrument called "SAYNT WILFRYDE BIRNYNG IRON," by the scarifications of which, such sanatory influence was

supposed to be conveyed to the deluded patient, that the profits of its application contributed 5*l.* 16*s.* 7½*d.* to the fabric fund in 1511 : though that faith, now developed in a more Esculapian manner, had so far diminished as to afford only 26*s.* 8*d.* in 1535. There could be produced also a stone, known by the name of the "POKSTONE OF ST. WILFRID," whose revenue is not indicated in the "Valor Ecclesiasticus," where, indeed, many more important particulars respecting the church have been suppressed. But my limits would fail me if I attempted to dilate on all the dark mysteries that have been practised within these grey old walls : I have only to hope that I may be enabled to treat on them at length in another and more comprehensive work. Though such enquiries may appear to some but trifling, it will not be altogether in vain to shew how diversely and cunningly superstition wove her darkling web over our ancient population ; or, to indicate, in the exhibition of its declining revenue, how grateful was the dawning ray of the Reformation, and how swiftly the cloud, that seemed afar off "no bigger than a man's hand," swept up from the horizon to envelope the ancient system in its shadow for ever.

After the dissolution of the Collegiate Churches, with their Chantries, by virtue of the statue of 1 Edward VI., their possessions were leased out by the Crown, and but the pittance of a few pounds reserved to the minister who was appointed to conduct the parochial services. Archbishop Sandys, aided by the influence of the great Burghley, and the Lords Huntingdon and Sheffield, endeavoured to obtain from Queen Elizabeth an endowment equal at least to the dignity of an extensive and populous parish ; but "they never obtained anything but fair, unperformed promises."

In the awful state of spiritual destitution which then prevailed, not only here, but generally in the North, the establishment of "An Ecclesiastical College" at Ripon, was proposed in 1596, —as well to supply the parochial cure of souls, as to maintain the Protestant faith by the creation of a learned and intelligent ministry. The list of patrons contained the names of many persons of rank and learning, including Dean Nowell and

Hooker, and improvable funds were provided; yet neither then, nor in 1604, when the burgesses influenced Anne of Denmark in its favour, could the project be carried into effect, although there is evidence that the building was in a state of preparation, and other arrangements made for the reception of students.

The necessity of the case, however, was so far locally recognised, that on the 2nd of August, 1604, King James constituted the late dissolved Collegiate Church of Secular Canons a Collegiate Church, to consist of a Dean and six Prebendaries for ever, and granted to them many of the ample sources of revenue which the old foundation had received from the piety and charity of numerous benefactors. In consequence of arrangements which need not be detailed, the Dean and Chapter surrendered the said revenues by deed enrolled 8th of June, 1608; to the King, who, by charter dated the same day, constituted the office of Sub-dean, and granted to them, with their ancient Canon Fee Court and many other privileges, the source of revenue they have since enjoyed.

The architectural history of the structure since the Reformation may be briefly narrated. Alderman Theakstone's MS. Chronicle, written in 1615, says, on the 5th of May, 1593, "was the greate speare of Sainct Wilfray steeple in Rippon sett on fire by lighteninge about thre of the clocke in the morning, and by God's ayde, & helpe of the towne's men, it was quinchd before seaven of the clocke in ye morninge." From intentions more commendable for their reverence for antiquity, than prudence for the safety of the fabric, the shattered "speare" was allowed to remain until the 8th of December, 1660, when, "by reason of a violent storm of winde, the great steeple (by which the brief I quote designates the spire), was blown down," and demolished the roof of the chancel, "which was the only part where the people could assemble for the duties of public worship." "The body, likewise, of the said church, which was before very ruinous, being by the fall of the said steeple sorely shaken and much weakened, insomuch as the charge for the more necessary repair of the said church, *without* rebuilding

the steeple," was supposed to amount to 6000*l.*, the inhabitants obtained the king's letters patent, enabling the Mayor of Ripon, with the Dean and other Commissioners, to receive the contributions of those who should wish to contribute to the good work—pertinently reminding them that "the Lord loveth the gates of Sion more than all the dwellings of Jacob."

The people responded liberally to the royal exhortation; but in consequence of the embezzlement of a great portion of the contributions, little more was accomplished than the imperative restoration of the choir roof, and the woodwork it had crushed in its descent. In 1664 the spires of the western towers were removed to obviate the recurrence of another catastrophe.

From this period, though the Chapter paid all the attention which their funds would allow to the immediate requirements of the fabric, the hand of time was effectually performing its insidious and lamentable work, until the accession of Dr. Webber to the Deanery, in 1829, when it was found that serious and most extensive renovation was required in all portions of the building. Mr. Blore having reported that 3096*l.* would be required to effect an efficient and substantial repair, and 2785*l.* more "to give the interior a uniform and consistent character," the Chapter, according to ancient precedent, publicly stated the urgency of the case to their parishioners and friends, who provided funds which ultimately amounted to upwards of 3000*l.*

A new roof and ceiling was now bestowed on the nave, and its clerestory lights were repaired. The choir was groined, its windows re-glazed and repaired, a new altar-screen was erected, and some minor operations effected in the choir.

All the restorations that have been hitherto mentioned were more or less partial and incomplete. The poverty of the Chapter and district rendered it impossible to do full justice to the many and urgent requirements of this venerable decaying structure. The evil day was only deferred. In 1861 a most vigorous, and happily successful, attempt was made to compensate for the deficiencies of bygone years, and, after years of labour, and a vast outlay, the minster now presents an appearance such as it

has never exhibited before. The movement was originated by the late Dean Goode, who availed himself of the invaluable services of Mr. George Gilbert Scott. The renovations carried out by Mr. Scott extend to nearly the whole of the minster. We shall briefly enumerate the most important of them.

The western towers, which were cracked from the top to the bottom, have been thoroughly repaired, the foundations have been renewed, and the walls and windows restored to their original condition. The portals likewise, which were in great decay, have been properly and safely renovated.

The external roof of the choir has been raised to its original elevation. An entirely new roof has been constructed of solid oak, in place of that of plaster which existed before, many parts of which were found to be in a state of dangerous decay. This roof has been covered with lead. The roofs of the north and south aisles of the choir have been thoroughly repaired, and their interior surface has been cleared of the coats of white-wash which entirely concealed the fine stone vaulting. The windows on the south side, which had been bricked up, have been re-opened, and proper mullions inserted.

Extensive repairs have been made on the outer walls of the Cathedral, extending from the south transept, along the south side towards the east end ; the whole of the east end ; and the north side as far as the north transept. The soil, which had accumulated to a considerable height against the walls, has been removed, and provision made for securing the walls from damp. The stonework wherever decayed has been made good. A window, flanked by new pinnacles, surmounts the east window. The mullions of the windows, wherever it was necessary, have been restored ; and everything essential to the external renovation of this part of the Cathedral is accomplished.

The central tower has also been restored, strong iron girders have been inserted to weld the stonework together, and every decay, whether in wood or stone, has been carefully put right. The roof and the transepts have been renewed. They were actually found to consist of plaster vaulting with *papier mache* ribs in the Norman character ! These were of course discarded,

and flat ceilings of the fifteenth century have been substituted.

The exterior walls on the north and south sides, stretching from the transepts to the west front now present their original aspect. The decayed mullions and pinnacles and buttresses have been renewed. Fresh stone has replaced that which had mouldered away. The unfinished aisles of the nave have been completed by an elegant and massive groining. In addition to all this the chapter-house, the crypt, and the library have been put into decent order, whilst throughout the church the plaster has been scraped off and every semblance of decay has entirely disappeared.

In the interior the principal and most obvious changes are of course in the choir. The galleries and closets below, with all the hideous pews, have disappeared. The stallwork has been restored, where restoration was needed, and new work has been added. At the east end a plain stone arcading has been carried along the wall, and the sedilia have been placed in closer propinquity to the altar. The altar originally stood against a screen one bay to the westward, but this arrangement had long ago been given up, and it was deemed inadvisable to return to it. Indeed the fact that the cathedral is regarded as a parish church has from time to time necessitated various alterations in the collocation of altar and sittings, which have broken up the mediæval arrangement of the choir. The general effect of the restoration of this part of the minster is most striking, and all the accompaniments of worship are so vastly superior to what they were, that at no time perhaps has Ripon Minster appeared to greater advantage.

These admirable restorations have been carried out with funds collected by a committee of which Earl de Grey and Ripon was the president. The whole cost has been about 36,000*l.*, Towards this the Ecclesiastical Commissioners contributed 10,000*l.*, for the necessary repairs; the remainder was raised by public subscription.

In consequence of a Report of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, and under the provisions of an Act of Parliament, 6 & 7 Will. IV., c. 77, an Episcopal See was erected at Ripon,

consisting of that part of the County of York heretofore in the Diocese of Chester, of the Deanery of Craven, and of such parts of the Deanery of the Ainsty and Pontefract, in the County and Diocese of York, as lie to the westward of the Liberty of the Ainsty and the Wapentakes of Barkstone Ash, Osgoldcross, and Staincross—a district containing the great towns of Leeds, Bradford, Halifax, Wakefield, and Huddersfield, among a host of lesser note.

By this act, also, the Collegiate Church of Ripon, and the Chapter thereof, were made the Cathedral and Chapter of the new See; and, according to ancient precedent, the town of Ripon became dignified with the appellation of a city.

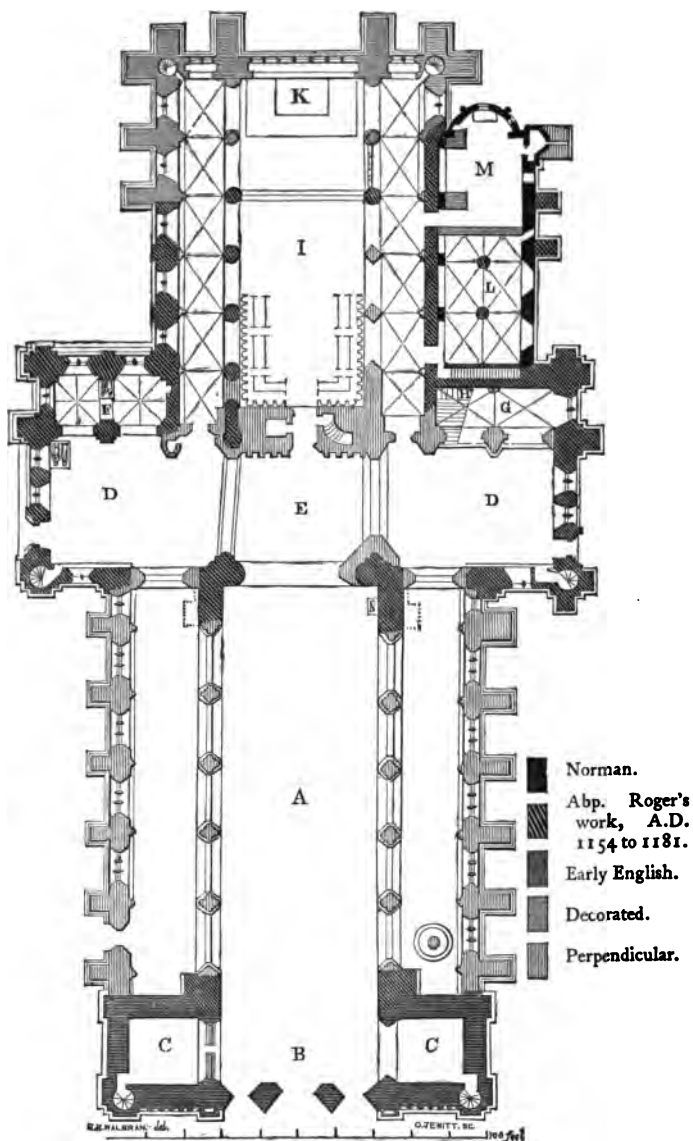
The *Rev. Charles Thomas Longley*, D.D., the amiable and learned head master of Harrow School, was appointed first Bishop of Ripon; and was consecrated in York Minster, Nov. 6, 1836. His Lordship was translated to Durham in September, 1856; from thence, in May, 1860, to York; and lastly, in 1862, to the highest position in the English church, as Archbishop of Canterbury. He was succeeded at Ripon by the *Rev. Robert Bickersteth*, D.D., Canon of Salisbury, and Rector of St. Giles'-in-the-Fields, London, who was consecrated January 17th, 1857.

The constitution of this Chapter was further changed by the Act 3 & 4 Vict., c. 113, which directs that the Prebendaries shall in future be designated Canons, and be reduced to four—each one of whom shall keep residence three months in each year, and the Dean eight months; that the first vacant Canonry shall be suspended, and the second filled up, and that the Sub-deanery, also, shall be suspended on the next avoidance; that the Canonries shall be in the patronage of the Bishop of Ripon, who is constituted visitor of the Chapter; and that a certain sum shall be paid by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, to provide for the efficient performance of the duties of the said Chapter, and *for the maintenance of the fabric thereof*. It had been previously directed, by 2 & 3 Vict. c. 55, that upon the vacancy of any two Canonries or Prebends Residentiary in the Cathedral Church of Ripon, among others, that a successor should be

appointed to the second of such vacant stalls respectively. It is enacted, also, by the 4 & 5 Vict., c. 39, that Honorary Canons shall be forthwith established in this, among other Cathedral Churches ; and fourteen have been installed by the present Bishop.







GROUND PLAN OF RIPON CATHEDRAL.

SURVEY OF THE CATHEDRAL.*

"They dreamt not of a perishable home,
Who thus could build. Be mine in hours of fear,
Or grovelling thought, to seek a refuge here."

THE first Christian church that occupied the site of the present Cathedral, was, doubtless, that of which we find remains in the Saxon crypt, called St. Wilfrid's Needle ; but since, according to Leland, the monastery was situated elsewhere, and the original parish church of Ripon stood in Allhallowgate, we must conclude that Wilfrid built another, besides his conventual church, at Ripon, as he did at Hexham, and that this was its identical site.

This structure would certainly not escape that devastation of King Edred, in 948, when even the monastery was not spared ; and the next which arose on the site was a church which, Leland says, Odo, then Archbishop of Canterbury, "caused to be edified wher the Minstre now is." Of this building no traces remain ; and the ruthless visit of William the Conqueror to the North will sufficiently account for its disappearance.

This state of destitution, I apprehend, then called on Thomas the Norman, whom the Conqueror had appointed Archbishop of York, to commence a new work, of which a portion remains contiguous to the south aisle of the choir of the present church.

The rapid development of architectural science, rather, perhaps, than the necessity of the case, next prompted the taste and liberality of Roger, Archbishop of York, to begin, between the year 1154 and 1181, the erection of a new "Basilica," of

* References to the plan :—

A Nave.	G The Mallory Chapel
B West entrance.	H Steps leading to the Library.
C C West Towers.	I Choir.
D D North and South Transepts.	K High Altar.
E Centre, or St. Wilfrid's Tower.	L Chapter House.
F The Markenfield Chapel.	M Vestry.

which the proportions are amplified in the present structure only by the addition of the western towers, the aisles of the nave, and the elongation, by one bay, of the clerestory of the choir. The greater part of this work is now re-edified, yet sufficient remains to indicate the entire plan and design of a work which deserves considerable attention, not merely as the work of a noted builder and a member of the church of Canterbury when the "glorious Choir of Conrad" was in existence, but as having respect to a continental, rather than an English development of the Romanesque method, and as forming a useful study in comparison with the neighbouring and contemporary structures of Fountains and Kirkstall, Jervaux, and Byland.

The several alterations, which were subsequently introduced, have been sufficiently indicated in the brief historical account of the building, from which, also, it will have been perceived that the Cathedral contains an example of every style of Christian architecture which has been used in England from its introduction in the Saxon times to its utter debasement in the sixteenth century.

WEST FRONT.

On approaching the church by Kirkgate, which leads thither from the market-place, the western façade rises before the spectator in imposing dignity and beauty. Except the modern addition of pinnacles and battlements to the towers, it remains free from those superinductions which, however intrinsically beautiful, often offend the eye in this portion of cathedral and conventual churches, and presents one of the most majestic specimens of the Early English style in the kingdom. Though it was erected half a century after the death of Archbishop Roger, in amplification of his west end of the nave, which probably resembled in spirit that of the north transept; yet, with all its more artistic subdivision of individual parts, the general spirit—allowing for just assimilation—is strongly respectful of the Romanesque distribution, as exhibited in Roger's

work, as well as in the general treatment of the design, shown definitely in the west end of Southwell Collegiate Church.

The elevation exhibits a gabled compartment, 103 feet high and 43 feet wide, flanked by two towers of little superior altitude. In the basement story are three deeply-recessed doorways, surmounted by two tiers of lancet lights, occupying its whole width—and are divided by clustered and banded shafts, enriched with the toothed ornament, and terminated by foliated capitals. Each of these ten windows was, before the recent restoration, divided into trefoil-headed lights, and a surmounting quatrefoil—an arrangement which has been thought subsidiary to the original design; though the date I have assigned to the work will prove not to be incongruous with the last gradation of the Early English style. The mullions and the upper tracery are now removed, leaving the windows plain lancet lights. Above the upper tier, the centre window being the tallest, and the rest receding in proportion, according to the spirit of the old Lombard fronts, are three lancet lights conjoined, in the swiftly declining pediment, which is finished by a bold corbel table, and crowned by a modern cross. The towers are on the same plane as the centre compartment, though divided from it by unstaged buttresses, that give a slight projection to each angle of the towers, and relieve the flatness that pervades the vast expanse of the western elevation. They are divided, above the basement story, which shows in front a trifoliated arcade, into three stages, in each of which, the face, originally disengaged from the old nave, has an arcade of three members; the centre compartment of each being pierced with a lancet light, and the archivolt supported by tall banded shafts, some single, some clustered. A corbel table surmounts the last stage, and prepared originally for the lofty octagonal spires of timber and lead, that long and ably completed the effect of an original and striking design.

To finish the curtailed extremities, battlements were erected; but these being much injured by a violent wind in 1714, the offensive appearance remained until 1797, when Dean Waddi-

love added a similar work, with pinnacles—the best relief that, under circumstances, could have been devised.

The southern tower contains a peal of eight BELLS, of the aggregate weight of 90cwt. 0qrs. 3lbs., cast by Lester and Pack, in March, 1762. Two of these were recast, and the whole peal rehung by Mallaby, of Masham, in 1868. There hung there previously five bells, and one in the opposite tower, which was said to have been brought from Fountains Abbey. It bore the following inscription, which fixes its date between 1374 and 1388:—"IHC. ORA MENTE PIA PRO NOBIS VIRGO MARIA. ALEXANDER EPISCOPUS EBOR DEI GRATIA, &c."

THE CLOCK was put up by Thwaites, of London, at a cost of £400, in the south tower, in 1809, in the place of a similar public convenience, provided by Dean Dering in 1723.

EXTERIOR OF THE NAVE.

Before a visitor enters the church, I would advise him to examine its northern elevation, in order to obtain a definite idea of some features that might, otherwise, seem inexplicable within; though the eye—refreshed by the beautiful western façade—may not relish the more severe character of the transept, or even that of the nave that rises by his side. The nave is divided in length into six bays; the windows of the clerestory, from the absence of a triforium, being sufficiently capacious to contain five lights, while those of the side aisles have but three, and consequently less ramified tracery. On the south, and, perhaps, earlier side, the tracery of the aisle windows, as well as the section of the vaulting shafts, are of less angular character than that of the opposite members, and the buttresses have also a third or additional stage. On both the sides, the buttresses have been prepared for pinnacles, which should be supplied, as also to the battlement of the clerestory; where they would contribute much to break the monotony of its long horizontal lines and the gloom of the slated roof.

TRANSEPT.

The north transept is the best example of the style of Archbishop Roger's "Basilica,"—the corresponding member having been partially rebuilt in the fifteenth century. Each side is divided into bays by a pilaster process, though—from the addition of an eastern aisle—differently treated in detail. Yet, in front, the unfashionable Norman arrangement of a central pilaster, is discarded, and those at the angles are expanded and elevated sufficiently to form two square bell turrets, which rise to a level with the apex of the pediment. They are pierced in the summit of each face by a plain round-headed aperture, divided by a mullion, while cylindrical shafts enrich the angle of each turret, and form rudely-pointed pinnacles to its pyramidal termination, surmounted by a plain knob or pommel; the whole being a good example of an arrangement which shows the germ of a spire and pinnacles. The semicircular-headed lights of the transept are arranged in two tiers, between which the triforium intervenes in the interior. Below the six windows of the front is the doorway, not placed in the centre, but towards the west, and immediately opposite to one of nearly similar design in the south transept. This doorway is very remarkable, having a plain trefoil head, rising from a corbel-like projection, placed at the impost of the soffit, and is flanked by three receding shafts, whose elegantly foliated capitals assimilate with this Byzantine trefoil, and support an archivolt of bold but undecorated mouldings.

Above the aisle of the north transept was originally a *chapel* communicating with the triforium both of the transept and of the choir; but, when that member of the structure was considered superfluous, its apertures in the transept wall were closed, and the roof settled to the crown of the vaulting below, A parapet wall and a mullion to some of the windows, is all that intrudes on the original integrity of this part of the church.

The original design of the CENTRAL TOWER may here be advantageously observed. The extreme pitch of the ancient roofs nearly hid its exterior walls, except where the space on

each side of the gables were pierced with a semicircular-headed window. A shaft that runs up the angle is checked only from forming a pinnacle by a capital that ranges with the corbel table ; and may have suggested the moulding that was afterwards used in the same portions of the western towers. The octagonal spire of timber and lead, that surmounted this tower until 1660, was of the height of 120 feet—having four spurs of the height of 21 feet and a battlement at its base.

On passing along the CHOIR, we see the most perfect specimens there, of Archbishop Roger's work in its three western bays ; though from the intrusion of Decorated windows in the side aisles, we may judge better of the original effect, by inspecting the contiguous side of the transept. The elevation of the clerestory exhibits, simply, a succession of bays—made by pilaster strips—each occupied by an arcade of one round, between two pointed members, the central one being pierced for a window—a Romanesque design, which was judiciously assimilated in the subsequent construction of the western front. The remainder of this side of the Choir—being the two bays of the Presbytery—was erected at the latter end of the thirteenth century, probably by Archbishop Melton (1319-1340), and is worthy of examination, if only from the amount of evidence it contributes to the disputed history of the Chapter House at York, to which it bears strong resemblance in much of its character and detail.

The elevation of the east end, though simple in outline, is rendered extremely effective by the massive buttresses, surmounted by corresponding pinnacles, or rather miniature turrets, which break it into three divisions, and flank its sides. Each of the aisles shows but a plain window like the lateral lights ; but the great window of seven lights, occupying an area of 51 feet high and 25 wide, is a magnificent example of the Early Decorated style, though not so rich as the contemporary east window at Guisbrough Priory, with which the whole of this façade may, indeed, be very usefully compared.

The south side of the church, being enclosed by the wall of the burial ground, cannot be conveniently viewed by the visitor, before he is conducted through the interior.

INTERIOR OF THE NAVE.

On entering the church by the western door, an imposing perspective, to the extent of 270 feet, is presented to the eye, intercepted only by the screen and the superincumbent organ ; but presenting, in the unseemly protrusion of one of the piers of the central tower, an anachronism, which a previous external inspection could alone instantly explain. The harmonious design of the spacious nave, captivating even to a spectator unacquainted with the principles and capabilities of Gothic architecture, will fill him with astonishment, who finds that, at least, the *proportions of the plan* were defined by antecedent operations ; and that a judicious apportionment of its constituent parts has effected all but this triumphant result. The tall and graceful pillars that support, without an intermediate triforium, a range of lofty windows of elaborate tracery, extending from the summit of the arcade to the panels of the roof, range on the foundation walls of Archbishop Roger's nave ; the aisles having been obtained by comprehending a space defined by the towers that projected to give breath to the western front. This combination has rendered the nave the widest of any cathedral in the kingdom, except those of York, Chichester, Winchester, and St. Paul's—measuring 87 feet. If we may judge from the bays still incorporated with the extremities of the present nave, the structure which preceded it must have had a sombre, though singular effect, having presented a lofty pointed triforium, surmounted by plain round-headed lights, and divided into bays by shafts resembling those in the transept. The aisles are groined ; and the capitals of the springers are adorned with angels holding shields, five of which are charged. On the north side are,

Three horse-shoes, for Fountains Abbey.

Quarterly, 1 and 4, two battleaxes in pale, in chief two mullets ; 2 and 3, a squirrel sejant, cracking a nut ; being the arms of Archbishop Bainbridge, created a Cardinal in 1511, and poisoned at Rome in 1514. This shield is surmounted by a Cardinal's hat.

Three Stars of six rays ; the mediæval insignia of St. Wilfrid. On the south side, the last mentioned shield ; and that of Savage, Archbishop of York, 1501-7—a *pall imp. a pale fusily*.

On the west pillar of the northern colonnade are sculptured, also, two contemporary shields :

1st. *Three mill-picks, two and one*—Pigot of Clothesholme.

2nd. *A bugle horn, belted and garnished* ; being the arms of the town. The letters R.I.P.P.O.N., now interspersed on the seal of the city, are here omitted ; but the belt is studded with bosses similar to those of silver on that worn by the Serjeant-at-Mace in procession. Randal Pigot was the Wakeman in 1471.



BAS-RELIEF ON A TOMB IN THE SOUTH AISLE.

The font stood in a proper but inconvenient situation at the western extremity of the nave, until it was removed to that portion of the south aisle in 1722, when the Ecclesiastical Court was formed at the opposite side. This font, elevated on two circular steps, and of an age coeval with the nave, is an octagon of blue marble, whose alternate faces are filled with blank shields and lozenges. This font has now fallen into desuetude, as lately an exact facsimile of it has been produced at the cost of the Honorary Canons, which has been set up under the north-west tower of the nave. Its predecessor occupies its old position in the south aisle, and, close to it, in the corner, is laid as a curiosity, the original Norman font of the Minster. No other cathedral, probably, can show three fonts in such close proximity.

Near the font, and contiguous to the wall, will be observed an ALTAR-TOMB covered with a slab of grey marble, on the horizontal surface of which is sculptured, in low relief, the representation of a man and a lion in a grove of trees; its romantic allusion being rendered more tantalising by a black-letter inscription, which is irretrievably defaced on the vertical stone below. A century ago, tradition recounted that it covered the body of an Irish Prince, who died at Ripon, on his return from Palestine, whence he had brought a lion that followed him with all the docility and faithfulness of a spaniel. It may be conjectured that on this stone it was the custom for the tenants of the Chapter to pay their rents. The sight of the lion and his teeth, with his intended victim, would be a caution against fraud and injustice. In York Minster it was usual to pay rents upon Haxby's tomb; the sides of this are of trellis work, through which you look with awe upon an outstretched skeleton.

Near the north-west pier of the central tower is a monumental bust and quaint inscription commemorating Hugh Ripley, the last Wakeman and first Mayor, who died in 1637; restored, after its destruction in the time of the Civil War, by Mr Harvey, at the expense of the corporation, in 1725.

It is much to be regretted that the fall of the southern and eastern sides of the Central, or ST. WILFRID'S TOWER, previously to 1459, should have deprived us of the effect of its four elegant Romanesque arches, springing from an altitude of little less than forty feet. Though the eye will be offended by the mixture of the Perpendicular with the original style, and especially—on entering the church—by the obtrusion of its south-western pier, it is some consolation to find that this defecation in the design—or rather in the Chapter Funds—has preserved such an interesting specimen of art as the remnant of Archbishop Roger's tower. On the face of the western piers opposite the nave, there remain at the height of 28 feet, two brackets, for the support of the original rood beam, which must have formed a most conspicuous object on entering the church.

The TRANSEPT demands particular attention from the architectural antiquary, as it presents, in all but in the eastern wall

of the southern member, a specimen of imperfectly developed Early English work ; which by comparison with the two transepts of the adjacent Abbey of Fountains, will alone afford a valuable illustration of the progress of architectural design in the latter half of the twelfth century.

Though the original arches of the eastern aisle, and the triforium above, with its germ of double lights and tracery, apparently give to the interior of this part of Roger's church a more developed character than the exterior ; yet in its round and flat trefoils, its lintels, its alternating round and pointed arches, a strong attachment is still manifested for the Romanesque, which must have been considerably increased, when the original flat roof neutralised the upward aspiring tendency, which was the soul of the pointed style. This feeling may be also observed in each end of the transept, where the three bays are not continued on one plane upwards to the roof, but are each crowned with a semi-circular head rising from the shafts which divide the windows of the clerestory.

In the aisle of the North Transept—the groining of which, still lingering with the square bay and flat dividing arch, merits notice on account of its early character—was formerly the CHANTRY OF ST. ANDREW : the piscina, a roundly trifoliated aperture, with a projecting basin, remaining in the south wall. This chapel was also the burial place of the Markenfields of Markenfield, near the city ; but no memorial of them now remains in it, except a fine altar-tomb of Sir Thomas Markenfield—a warrior in the time of Edward III.—and his wife, the heiress of the Miniots of Carlton-Miniot, near Thirsk. He is vested in a suit of plate armour, and wears a collar, which exhibits the design of a parkpale and a stag couchant, above the elongated, but depressed pales in front—which, as had been conjectured with much probability by Mr. Planche, is to shew that the deceased knight was a partizan of the house of Lancaster. His arms (*argent*), *on a bend (sable)*, *three bezants*, are sculptured on his breast, and on the hilt of his richly decorated sword ; as well as repeated, impaling Miniot, in a series of 15 shields, graven round the tomb, commemorative of the alliances of his ancient and chivalrous race.

There has been removed from the North-east angle of this chapel an altar-tomb of coarse workmanship, on which are placed the effigies of Sir Thomas Markenfield and Elenor his wife, daughter of Sir John Conyers, of Hornby Castle. On the champ or filleting of this tomb is the following memorial, in defaced and obscure characters :—

HIC IACENT TOMAS M'KNEFELD MILES ET ELENOR UXOR
(EJUS ILLE OBIIT PRI)MO MENC' MAIJ ANNO D['NI MCC]
CC⁰LXXXXVIJ Q¹ FUIT SENESCHALLVS ISTI' VILLE ET KURKBI
MALLZEDE ET ELENOR [OBIIT] V⁰ DIE MENC' MAIJ A⁰ D'NI
MCCCC⁰LXXXXⁱⁱⁱ.

The arms on the head and side are, 1, *a saltire*; 2, *a chevron*; 3, *a cross floy* for Ward of Givendale; 4, *a maunch* for Conyers; 5, Markenfield; and 6, *three water bougets*, probably, for Roos.



TOMB OF SIR THOMAS MARKENFIELD, 1497.

Near this tomb there lies against the wall a fine coped coffin lid, which, probably, commemorated some canon of the Minster in the 13th century. Prior to the recent alterations it was turned face downwards.

The Markenfield Chapel has been used since the seventeenth century as the burial-place for the Blackets of Newby; and, among several tablets to their memory, contains a cumbrous pile, recently restored, in honour of Sir Edward Blacket, Bart., who died in 1718, and is represented in a recumbent position, with two of his wives standing by him. The inscription is diffuse, but fortunately genealogical.

A STONE PULPIT, of Early Perpendicular character, and unusual form—inasmuch as it is without a stem—stands by the entrance to the north aisle of the Choir. It has evidently been removed from another position, though it has been originally attached to a wall or a pillar.

The destruction of the east and south sides of the Great Tower, about the year 1459, caused the renovation of the contiguous side of the transept, in massive Perpendicular character, which may be usefully contrasted with the original Early English mode of treatment, in the corresponding member of the north transept.

THE SOUTH TRANSEPT has been, immemorially, the burial place of the Lords of Studley Royal. Here, among many other of their less renowned ancestors and descendants, rest Sir William Mallory, one of the Council of the North under Queen Elizabeth; Sir John Mallory, who defended Skipton Castle for King Charles, in the Grand Rebellion; his grandson, John Aislabie, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and his son, William Aislabie, Auditor of the Imprest, and Member of Parliament for Ripon sixty years. The east aisle was appropriated especially for their use in 1733. Some curious frescos, near the entrance to the Library, discovered in 1866, merit attention.

It will be almost needless to observe that the memorial of Mr. Weddell, at the end of the south transept, is designed after the Choragic monument of Lysicrates at Athens. The bust is by Nollekens, and the trypod on which it is placed, was modelled from an antique, in his noble statute gallery at Newby.

The present wooden ceiling is the work of the restoration committee. It is supported by corbels, carved into the sem-

blance of warriors and ecclesiastics bearing shields, with the following arms, principally of benefactors of the church during the recent restoration. North side: first, Canon Worsley; second, Bishop of Ripon (arms of the See); third, *sword in pale*; fourth, Earl de Grey and Ripon; fifth, *three ...*; sixth, Canon Gray; seventh, *blank*; eighth, *a cross flory*; ninth, Arms of the City; tenth, St. Wilfrid; eleventh, Dean Goode; twelfth, Dr. Atlay. On the south side the old ceiling, redecorated, remains with its coats of arms: first, *three mascles*; second, Norton of Norton; third, *a mitre*; fourth, See of York; fifth, *five mascles, two, two and one*; sixth, Fountains Abbey; seventh, *two swords in saltire*; eighth, Pigot of Clotherholme; ninth, *three stars, two and one*. On a boss at the intersection of the ribs is carved an Agnus Dei, the crest or cognizance of the church.

The stone SCREEN at the entrance to the Choir—"a work of rich entayle and curious molde"—was erected when the Perpendicular piers between which it is placed were renewed, after the ruin of the tower, about the year 1459. The present work is 19 feet high, and presents the arrangement, simple in outline, but elaborate in detail, of a doorway having four niches on each side, a tier of twenty-four small niches above, and a cornice bearing shields with rests, that appear to have been coloured and charged. One alone has a bearing, that of Kendall of Ripon. Over the door is a representation of the Holy Father amidst censing angels; a figure of the Saviour has been removed from the lap of the Father. On the lower pedestals are shields, bearing *a cross flory*, for Ward of Givendale; *three mill picks* for Pigot; *a chevron between three mullets*, for Pudsey; *three billets*; and the *mark of a merchant*. The folding doors, adorned with elaborate tracery, are a good example of their style. They bear, carved on shields, *a mitre*; *three mascles*; *three stars of 5 rays*; *a sword in pale*; *two keys in saltire, surmounted by a regal crown*, for the See of York; and *a cross of Calvary raguled*.

The ORGAN, above this screen, usurped, in 1833, the place of one constructed on the spot, by Gerald Schmidt, in 1695-6, and accounted one of the sweetest-toned in the kingdom. The diapasons of the great organ were of rich, full, inimitable

melody; but there was no swell, and only eighteen stops. The whole of its choir organ, comprehending the open and stop diapason, principal, dulciana, and flute, are, however, fortunately retained in the present instrument, which was built by Mr. Booth, of Leeds. There are twenty-six sounding stops; but the weakness of the scale and the general poverty of tone in the full organ, as well as want of individuality in the solo stops, cause the effect in the services of the church to be very unsatisfactory.

The depressed heads and spiral canopies of the three niches above the south entrance to the choir shew them to be coeval with the screen. The statue of king James I. once adorned the centre one, and was presented to the church in 1810, by the Dean and Chapter of York, who had removed it from their gorgeous screen, to make way for Michael Taylor's more appropriate and very elegant figure of king Henry VI. It now stands on a pillar adjoining the north west pier of the central tower.

THE SAXON CRYPT, OR "ST. WILFRID'S NEEDLE."

Before quitting the nave, an antiquary must not forget to examine the far-famed Crypt under the Central Tower, the position of which, and therefore of the whole of Roger's Church, it has directly influenced. After a narrow and inconvenient passage of 45 feet from the nave, he will arrive in a cylindrically-vaulted cell, seven feet nine inches wide, eleven feet three inches long, and nine feet four inches high, dark and cheerless as the grave. As it is all but destitute of those indicia by which its precise antiquity might be determined, a wide scale of chronology has been applied to it, and some have supposed it to have been originally a Roman sepulchral vault; in imitation of which it has indeed been constructed. By the comparison, however, of its ground plan, with that of a crypt at Hexham in Northumberland, it will become evident that both these crypts were built on the very same peculiar plan, and in the same mode of construction; and as we know,

on the authority of Richard Prior of Hexham, that Wilfrid introduced a crypt of this remarkable character into the Conventual Church of Hexham,* it is reasonable to conclude that

* It may be well to illustrate this account of the Ripon crypt with the notice of that at Hexham in Northumberland, which was drawn up by Mr. Walbran for Mr. Raine's Memorials of the Church of Hexham.

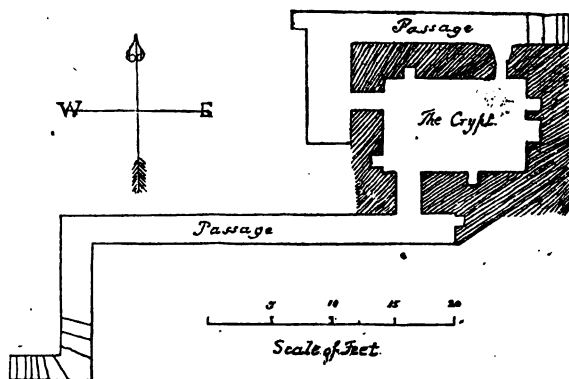
"After passing through a narrow doorway or opening in the wall with a semi-circular head, devoid even of the accompaniment of a chamfer, the visitor enters the anti-chapel, a chamber with a barrel vault 9 feet 2 inches long, 5 feet 7 inches wide, and 9 feet in extreme height. Nearly in the centre of the vault, which shews some stones of the characteristic Saxon dressing, are traces of a small rectangular opening, like one in a similar position in the crypt at Ripon; but for what purpose it has been used (the coincidence inclining me to think it is not merely accidental) it is not easy to conjecture. In the south wall is a small recess or niche, with a flat head in front, but hollow like a funnel behind, and with a deep circular cavity or basin in the base. This niche, which resembles all the rest in the crypt, is also perfectly unornamented. From this chamber we pass by a doorway opposite to that by which we entered, and of similar size and character, into the chapel or main body of the crypt. It is vaulted, like the anti-chapel, and to the same height, the length being 13 feet 4 inches, and the width 8 feet. There is a niche in the west wall, on the right hand as we enter. The only member on the north side is a niche towards the east end, in all respects like the rest; but with this additional peculiarity, which appears not to have been noticed by previous writers on the crypt, that, like the celebrated "St. Wilfrid's Needle," exactly in the same position ~~in~~ the crypt at Ripon, it is voided to the passage on the other side of the wall. For what purpose these peculiar openings may have been originally used it is, perhaps, now useless to inquire. Certain only it is that, in this case, the niche has never been applied to the purpose for which that at Ripon was *enlarged* and became famous, as the wall behind is not cut away so as to allow a person to be drawn through the orifice. There are no remains of the altar, but on the north side of its site a plain semi-octagonal bracket is inserted in the wall, above which, the disposition of some drilled holes, one retaining a piece of solder, suggests that a crucifix had once been placed there. On the south side of the chapel, a doorway, like those before mentioned, with a niche in the wall a little to the left, opens into a cell 5 feet 4 inches long, by 3 feet 6 inches wide, and roofed with large flat stones, inclining like the sides of a triangle, the apex of which is 8 feet from the floor. Hence we pass eastward, through an archway, into a passage 2 feet 6 inches broad, and covered with large stones placed horizontally, leading in the same direction for the space of 8 feet 6 inches, with a gentle ascent. At this point it turns southward, and further progress was until recently arrested by a dry wall, probably placed there, like one in the passage on the opposite side of the crypt, when the western piers of the tower of the church were strengthened by the superincumbent buttresses. We can, however, now see that the western side of it continues in the same southern direction for the space of ten feet and more, and that near the point of divergence another passage has gone forward towards the east; but the unprotected state of the earth and stones overhead prevents farther investigations from this side, though the southern passage might probably be traced by an excavation opposite the doorway which formerly led from the south transept to the

this also was of his foundation. Yet, since Leland has proved that the Monastery of Ripon did not occupy the precise site of the present Cathedral, this crypt has, doubtless, not been in immediate connexion with the Conventual Church, but with another of Wilfrid's churches, now forgotten. The annexed ground-plan will explain the arrangements of the crypt better than any other description I can adopt. It may, however, be added, in its illustration, that in consequence of the subsequent construction of the piers of the tower, it is uncertain whether the passages remain on their original plan. That the western portion of the passage from the nave has been disturbed, is evident, indeed, both from the masonry of the walls, and an early monumental stone, bearing a plain cross, that forms a portion of the roof. It may be added, too, that the space at the west-end of the chapel is covered by a semi-vault rising towards the east, which has originally carried the stairs of the superincumbent altar, and that the doorways, corresponding in size and form with those at Hexham, are but rude apertures in the wall, each covered by a lintel, in which the semi-circular heads are gained. The niches also are but plain recesses, with semicircular heads. One on the western wall has the addition of a deep basin in the base, and others, a funnel-like aperture behind the arch, as if to carry off the smoke of a lamp. "The needle" has been formed by perforating the niche thirteen inches wide and eighteen inches high, on the north side, through the thickness of the wall to the parallel passage behind, said to ascend to the porch, in the choir screen, behind the sub-dean's stall.

The purposes to which this very singular place has been cloister court. Returning now to the anti-chapel, we pass through a doorway, like those we have seen previously, into a cell 6 feet long by 3 feet 6 wide, with a triangular roof, similar to that of the little chamber on the south side of the chapel. Hence a passage, covered with flat stones, leading east, rises so considerably, that, behind the voided niche in the chapel, the floor is level with its base, as occurs in the crypt at Ripon. At this point, too, it turns northward and rises four steps, the roof becoming semi-circular and sloping, parallel to the graduation of the stairs. After four more steps eastward, further access is closed, but so little of the passage remains unexplored that a person stationed in it can distinctly hear words spoken in the transept of the church."—*PRIORY OF HEXHAM*, preface, pp. xxxix.-li.

successively applied, are not certainly ascertained—though there seems no doubt but that originally it was intended to serve as a place of retirement, humiliation, penance, and prayer. Camden was told, within memory of the Reformation, that females were drawn through the needle as an ordeal of their chastity—the culprit being miraculously detained; or as Fuller wittily observed, “They prick’d their credits who could not thread the needle.”

As it is very evident that the “Needle” is but an enlargement of one of the original niches of the crypt, it may be presumed that its purpose, whatever it may have been, has been devised at a period long subsequent to the construction of the building, when anxiety prevailed in the religious houses of exhibiting miraculous agency through the intervention of their patron saint, or of some notable person connected with their foundation.



Although a knowledge of the legerdemain practised by our canons will support the belief of an ordeal more absurd than that which Camden has recorded; it was, perhaps, through its medium as a confessional, that the Needle mortified the spirit rather than the flesh;—the penitent kneeling by the narrow orifice he had reached from the nave, while the priest sat near the expanding embouchure, to which he descended from the choir.

Lastly, this convenient peculiarity of ingress and egress

might also render the vault a fit sepulchre, whence the image of Christ—removed on Good Friday from the nave, a type of the church militant on earth—would be brought up into the choir, the emblem of the church triumphant in heaven, on the anniversary of the morn of the resurrection.

INTERIOR OF THE CHOIR.

On emerging again to the nave, the visitor must turn to the elegant and spacious choir. Its proportions are defined by Archbishop Roger's plan ; but of his main superstructure, three bays on the north side and pillars on the south alone remain, though the outer wall of the south aisle proves the prolongation of the work eastward, to its present extremity. It may, however, be assumed, as well from its unusual length as from a fashion of the style—exemplified in the kindred abbey of Byland—that the original clerestory was shorter by one bay than the present, and that an aisle circulated round its eastern extremity. The three bays opposite Roger's work were renewed after the ruin of the contiguous angle of the central tower, about 1459; the rest of the choir, on both sides, having been renewed, in the Decorated style, in the former half of the fourteenth century. This work—elegant in spirit though simple in detail—comprehends the presbytery ; though its special character is now only indicated by a double suite of tracery in the clerestory windows, an arcade round the basement of the outer wall, and the elevation of the floor. Its most powerful effect, however, was doubtless contributed by its stained glass ; if we may judge from those fragments of the east window which escaped destruction in the great rebellion, and having been collected into twelve circular compartments in the tracery by Dean Dering, in 1724, remained there until the present glass was inserted in 1854.* The date of this decoration is fixed after the year 1340, by two

* This glass is now placed in a window of the nave, near the Font. Among the figures that can be identified will be observed those of St. Peter with his golden key ; St. Paul with his sword ; St. Andrew with his cross ; and St. Cornelius with the same symbol foliated at the extremities.

shields that, until this recent period, remained in their original position in the spandrels of the sub-arches, the one being that of England within a bordure of France, and surmounted by a label of three points azure, the other that of France, azure semé de lis, or; as assumed by King Edward III.

The glass which now occupies the east window was executed by Mr. Wailes, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, at the cost of 1000*l.*, defrayed by a public subscription throughout the diocese. The subject is that of our Saviour giving his commission to the twelve Apostles; and in compartments below are represented the Descent of the Holy Ghost; Philip baptizing the Eunuch; Peter preaching to the Jews; Peter baptizing Cornelius and his household; Paul preaching to the Gentiles; and the first preaching of the Gospel to the ancient Britons. On a fillet at the foot is inscribed: THIS WINDOW WAS ERECTED IN COMMEMORATION OF THE CREATION OF THE SEE OF RIPON. ANNO DOMINI 1836. C. T. LONGLEY, D.D., FIRST ELECTED BISHOP.

Besides a remarkable assimilation of the Early English, Decorated, and Perpendicular, all of which meet in the third bay from the east end on the south side; the choir presents also another remarkable spectacle in the arrangement of the windows in two tiers. This, however, formed no part of an original design; but was gained by glazing the traceried apertures of the triforium, the roof of which was then settled to the vaulting of the aisles. Uninformed of this fact, the student has often gazed in astonishment on the two pointed lights of the round-headed arch, divided by a slender column, and ornamented with those sharp cusps, which are in reality, shown from the more modern mullion behind.

The partial fall of the central tower, about 1459, occasioned ultimately the uniform re-decoration of the choir throughout; and nobly did the canons accomplish their design. Elaborate lattice work of exceeding beauty screened it from its aisles, and thirty-two canopied stalls occupied the western extremity and the space of two intercolumniations on each side. When the wooden vault was burst in by the shattered spire in 1660, the

storied tabernacles of the damaged stalls on each side were replaced by an incongruous work ; and subsequently, from time to time, the lattices were carelessly and ignorantly mangled to form the gallery fronts, and portions of the pews below. In the late restoration all this barbarous work has been removed and the ancient design has been carried out ; one portion in the north aisle, with a singular and contemporary iron scutcheon, contained a fragment of the inscription recorded by Dodsworth, that was "cut in wood about St. Wilfrid's Quire," and the date MCCC^oLXXXX^o[v]Ij^o. At the eastern extremity of the south range was the ancient throne of the Archbishop of York, still identified by a carved mitre behind. The space of two stalls was comprehended for this purpose in 1684 ; but the unseemly canopy was supplanted in 1812 by another throne, which was executed by Archer of Oxford, at an expense of 200*l.*, defrayed by Archbishop Markham. This has now been replaced by a third displaying better taste. The shield on its ancient finial bears three estoiles, the insignia of St. Wilfrid, supported by angels, and surmounted with a mitre ; the date below, ANNO DN'I 1494—the latest on the woodwork of the stalls—indicating the time of their completion. The poppy above, fashioned as an elephant bearing a military tower, with its defenders, is one of the most singular of its class of ornament ; and the fidelity with which the animal is detailed is very remarkable. The stall opposite to the bishop's throne is occupied by the mayor, as it probably was by the wakeman, since it is larger and more adorned than the rest of the adjoining range. A shield charged with two keys in saltire, one of the armorial bearings of the See of York, adorns the finial on which the mace has been supported since 1646. The appurtenant subsellia display a number of curious and satirical conceits, in the majority of which more is meant than meets the eye. Samson with the gates of Gaza ; a pig playing bagpipes ; Jonah thrown into the sea ; Jonah delivered from the whale ; a griffin among rabbits, one of which it has seized ; a fox preaching to geese, a fox running away with a goose, and the dog worrying the fox, are especially worthy of notice.



MISERERES FROM CHOIR STALLS.



The elegant wooden Bosses of the Perpendicular vaulting of the choir, which was broken in by the fall of St. Wilfrid's spire in 1660, are replaced with some additions in the modern



groining; and viewing them from the west, thus appear: Angel seated; Head (unknown); an aged man conducting a female to the door of a church; a Bishop giving the benediction; a King seated; a Bishop seated; a King and a Bishop seated; the Crucifixion (modern); the Annunciation of the Virgin; the Expulsion from Paradise; the good Samaritan. After the

restoration of the choir a handsome brass Lectern was given by Mr. Lockwood, of Harrogate; and a richly carved oak pulpit was presented by the clergy of the diocese.

AN ALTAR-SCREEN was erected in 1832, after a design by Mr. Blore; a large painting by Streater, serjeant-painter to Charles II., representing an Ionic colonnade, having previously occupied its place. On removing it, a panelled screen of wood, rudely painted, was discovered, and behind it the original Decorated reredos. Although it presents no special feature, but is merely a continuation of the arcade in the aisles, it was thought more uniform to leave it *in situ*. The altar-stone, with its five crosses, was found below the present table.

The original PISCINA of the high altar was displaced by the erection of the late altar-screen; but that of a chantry, at the adjoining end of the south aisle, remains in the shape of a basin resting on a cylindrical shaft. In this aisle too, a remarkable LAVATORY near the vestry door must be noticed.

Three SEDILIA, with a curtailed PISCINA, occupy the whole of the first intercolumniation from the east, and have richly crocketed ogee heads, resting on square pillars, the surfaces of which are adorned with the Tudor rose. The grotesque capitals

and quaintly devised cusps are interesting specimens of our proficiency in sculpture at the close of the fifteenth century; though the general design betrays the decline of sound architectural principles. After careful restoration, the sedilia now occupy their proper position within the altar-rail. Solid carved oak lecterns; and proper furniture, have also been added.

From indications in the wall, it is evident that there was a chapel in each aisle of the Presbytery; that on the north side having contained the Shrine of St. Wilfrid.

CHAPTER HOUSE AND VESTRY.

There is attached to the south aisle of the choir a building, or rather a part of a building, which, being evidently of unusual antiquity, and unconnected either in style or plan with Roger's church, has been long confidently supposed to be the original church of Wilfrid, or, at least, the structure erected by Odo about the year 950. I should contentedly concur in this latter proposition, if each characteristic part of the building had not satisfied me that its age is subsequent to the Norman Conquest; and historical evidence concurred to warrant the supposition. It is perhaps a portion of the church which the devastation that ensued in these parts after the year 1069, demanded from Thomas, archbishop of York, who was Lord of Ripon at the time when the Domesday Survey was made, and died here on the 18th of November, 1100. The rest of that structure was doubtless destroyed by Archbishop Roger, when he commenced his "Basilica," this portion being retained, as convenient for the chapter house and sacristy; the arcade by which it joined its original structure having been closed and flanked by the wall of the choir. This arcade, which has no capitals to the square piers, and but a chamfered margin, is hid from a casual observer in the chapter house, and encumbered in the vestry by two buttresses, formed in the Decorated period, to balance the intended vaulting of the choir. The south and east sides of the building only are detached from Roger's church, and present a peculiar appearance; since the crypt, which runs its whole length, has, in consequence of the favourable declivity

of the ground, a tier of lights, which appear prominently in the elevation. During or very soon after Roger's time, the chapter house, and probably the vestry, was vaulted with plain chamfered ribs, to cylindrical pillars, and the *freestone* buttresses applied to the southern wall; but in the vestry all traces of this have disappeared, except some brackets, perhaps in consequence of the intrusion of the Decorated buttresses. The vestry, however, presents a more interesting appearance in its apsidal termination; where, on account of the contiguity of the choir, the central window is accompanied only by a light on the south, below which is a square recess and a small round-headed piscina, with a projecting basin. The altar does not appear to have been of stone, but its platform, a concrete mass, bounded by wrought stones, remains attached to the wall.

On the south side of the vestry is a closet or small apartment formed in the lateral apse, which has been, originally, a kind of Sacristy, and, subsequently, a receptacle for the valuables of the church. On its west side is a recess, communicating with the churchyard, which has contained a sink or lavatory.

Above the vestry and chapter house, a chapel, yet called the LADY LOFT, was erected about 1482. It is reached by a flight of stairs from the south transept, which also served a chantry chapel over the west end of the choir aisle. There were formerly two divisions of the lady loft, of which the eastern was used as a Collegiate library; the partition was removed in 1840, and the whole apartment appropriated to that purpose; but during the late restorations a portion of the west end of the library was partitioned off as a SONG-SCHOOL: and a circular staircase was constructed to connect the library with the vestry below.

The foundation of the LIBRARY dates only from 1624, when Dean Higgin bequeathed his collection of books to the Chapter. Such books as the canons possessed before the Reformation were probably deposited in the Vestry, where Leland, a little while before, was shown the Life of St. Wilfrid by Peter of Blois, of which he has preserved some passages in his Collectanea. None of these books can be identified in the present

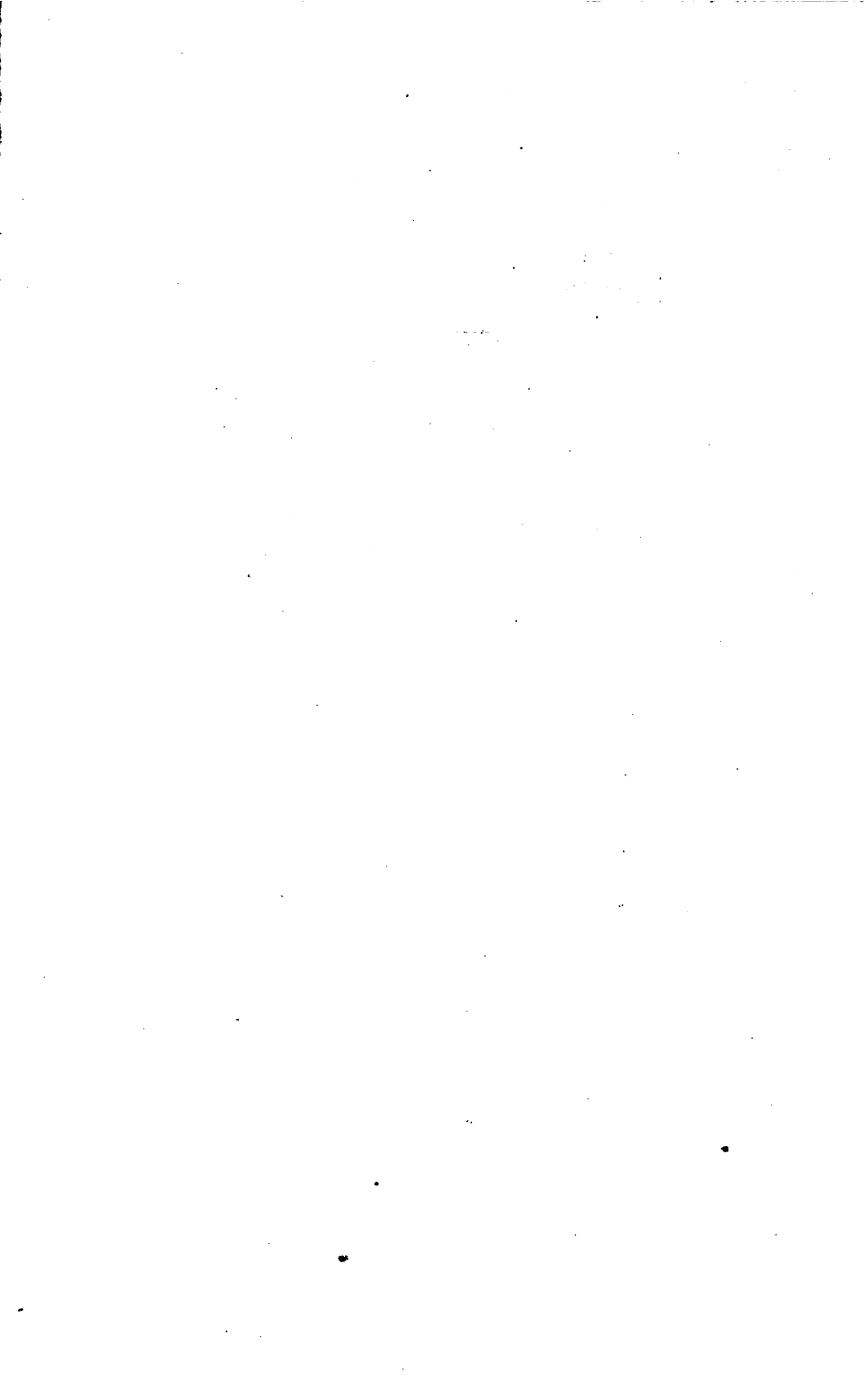
collection; nor, indeed, can any be certainly ascertained to have belonged to the Chapter before the bequest of Higgin. In 1868 a collection of books was acquired, being a bequest of the late Rev. Edward Feilde, of Harrogate, and many other books were subsequently added by the late Dean Goode. The whole collection has been arranged by the Rev. J. T. Fowler, F.S.A., of Durham, and some books of great interest and value have come to light.

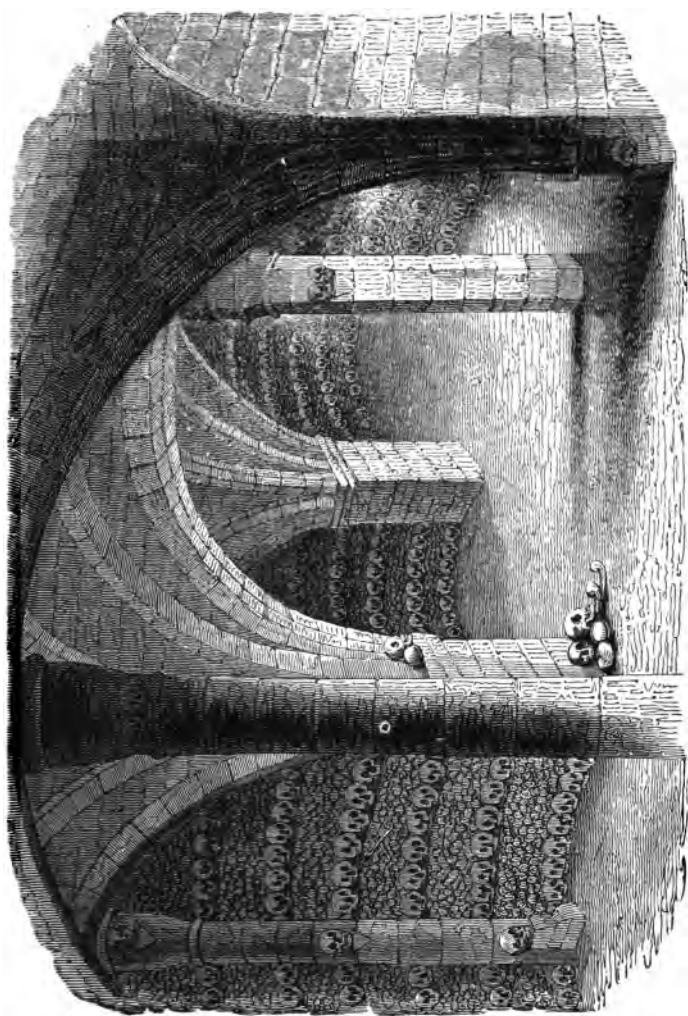
From the chapter house there is a descent into that portion of the crypt formerly used as a sepulchral vault: but into which are now collected various architectural remains.

The celebrated "BONE-HOUSE" no longer exists. An inscribed stone, fixed in the east wall of the burial ground thus records the removal of the bones from the crypt in which they had so long reposed:—"Under this stone, in a pit 12 feet deep, the extent of which is marked out by boundary stones, a portion of the bones that were in a crypt under the south east part of the cathedral, were buried in May, 1865." This crypt is entered from the church-yard. From its vaulting the age of the structure is definitely ascertained. It is supported by square pillars, each with a plain concave capital, on which rest the semi-circular arches of nearly equal width. These rise from pillar to pillar and pier in a rectangular form and have been strengthened in the Early English period, when additional substance has been added to the pillars themselves. The windows, 3 ft. 7 in. high, and 9 in. wide, retain the double splay.

The head of the Saxon Cross, which occupied a niche over the Bone-House door, was found in 1832, in taking down a wall of the time of Henry VIII., at the east end of the choir.

There are collected into the above crypt seven sepulchral slabs as early perhaps as the thirteenth century. They were discovered in 1832, together with the cross head above alluded to, on the removal of a high wall, under the great east window, that had screened the space between the adjacent buttresses from the church-yard; and had been erected, with what precise intent it is impossible to imagine, about the time of the Reformation. Two of them bear the plain foliated cross; another





THE CRYPT UNDER THE CHAPTER HOUSE (FORMERLY THE BONE HOUSE) IN RIPON CATHEDRAL.

the addition of a book ; another of a chalice and a book ; the fifth of a chalice and a wafer ; the last of the blade of a sword and some other object, indistinct even on its discovery. It is probable that they have been taken from the floor of the old nave by the Tudor builders, and that there are more concealed in the steps leading to the lady loft.

Before the Reformation, Leland observed "that the Prebendaries' Houses," the sites of which may still be defined, "be buildid in Places nere to the Minstre, and emong them the Archebishop hath a fair palace. And the Vicars' houses be by it in a fair quadrant of square stone buildid by Henry Bowet, Archebishop of York." These six members of the church having been formed into a body corporate by King Henry V., had ordinances made for their government by the archbishop, when he allotted them a part of his Manor Garth for the site of their house, in 1450. In the time of Queen Elizabeth, when a college was projected at Ripon, this house was to have formed part of the fabric, and was repaired for that purpose ; but before 1625 it was almost entirely destroyed, and a new house erected which became the Deanery.

The Palace or Manor Hall, where the archbishop of York had a residence, stood on the north side of the nave of the cathedral, in a site which retains its Saxon appellation of "The Hall Yard." It was "a fair Palace" at the time of the Reformation, but went so far to decay after that period, that at the request of the corporation in 1629, Archbishop Harsnet offered "to bestow his great howse, or some part thereof," as a workhouse for the poor. It probably was not long used for this purpose ; but became so dilapidated that, within recollection, little more than a portion sufficient for holding the Quarter Sessions and Manor Courts was left, its remains were ruthlessly and wantonly destroyed in 1830 when the present Court House was erected on the site.

The park appurtenant to the palace, and in Leland's time "vj miles in cumpace," is on the north side of the city, beyond the High Common; but having been long divided into farms, retains little trace of its original condition, except the remains of the Keeper's Lodge—a building in the Perpendicular style, incorporated with one of the farm-houses.

TRINITY CHURCH.

THERE are eleven chapels of ease appurtenant to the cathedral and parish church, but only this within the city. It was built and endowed, under the provisions of a local act of parliament, 7 Geo. IV., c. 50, by the late Rev. Edward Kilvington, M.A., at an expense of 13,000*l.*, bequeathed for Christian purposes, by his relative, Thomas Kilvington, Esq., M.B., a noted medical practitioner in this city. The first stone was laid on the 28th of July, 1826, and the building was consecrated by the archbishop of York, on the 31st of October, 1827. It is of cruciform arrangement, and designed by the late Mr. Thomas Taylor, whose successful practice in the delineation of our ancient and genuine architecture should have suggested something better than this incongruous compilation. The spire is the most tolerable portion, and forms a conspicuous object at a considerable distance. The edifice accommodates 800; and has a powerful organ, built by Renn and Boston, of Manchester. On the north side of the chancel is a faithful bust of the late Rev. E. Kilvington, by Mr. Angus Fletcher, which, "in grateful remembrance of his name and work, his friends and hearers caused to be erected." In 1873, the church was fitted with modern stalls; and otherwise renewed and beautified.

The parsonage, built by subscription, in 1849, is a neat and substantial building, and enjoys an excellent situation, overlooking the church.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND INSTITUTIONS.

THE HOSPITAL OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE, founded by an Archbishop of York, who was forgotten so early as 1341, stands on the northern extremity of Stammergate, not far from the river Yore. The alms-houses were rebuilt in 1674; but the chapel, on the opposite side of the way, remains as it was left at the Reformation. The original structure of the twelfth century, containing a rudely-ornamented Norman doorway, has been repaired during the Perpendicular era, when the screen and its appurtenant blanchéd stalls were constructed. A low side-window of this date, in the middle of the south wall, has been partially walled up. Besides these relics, there is a stone high altar remaining in its proper position, and on its south side a smaller slab in the floor, that appears, from the incised crosses, to have served a similar purpose, probably before the elongation of the chapel. The pavement before the altar, 11 feet long and 3 feet 8½ inches wide, is worthy of attentive consideration; for if it is not actually Roman, as is generally supposed, it has certainly been copied from a work of that period, in the twelfth century. The inscription, which commemorates the re-building of the alms-houses, is as follows:

ÆDES HASCE RVITVRAS A
SOLO RESTITVIT
RI. HOOKE S.T.P. HOSPITIJ
S MAR. MAGDAL. MAGISTER
& ECCLE. COLLE. DE RIPON
PREBENDARIVS A.D. 1674
HOSPITIJ PATRONIS REVER
MIS DOM. ARCHIEP. EBORAC.

[ἐργαδιώτη I.D.] (*sic*).

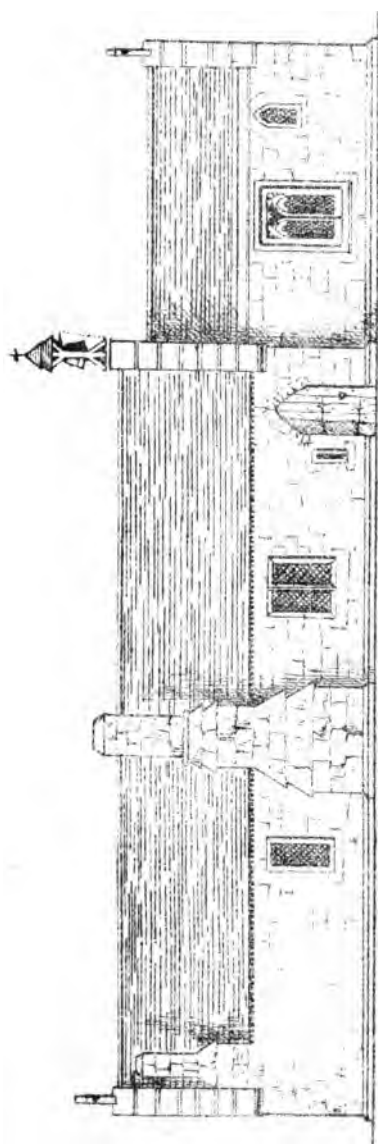
By a munificent donation from the late Rev. George Mason, of Copt Hewick Hall, the sum of 1000*l.* was devoted in 1869, to the erection of a NEW CHAPEL, on the opposite side of the road. This edifice stands prettily on rising ground, and, when backed by the dark foliage behind, forms an interesting object from the

north road. It is built of white lime-stone in the Decorated style, but having, by the express desire of its founder, a perpendicular window inserted as a copy of one at Sharow church. The internal arrangements of the church are solid and plain.

THE HOSPITAL OF ST. ANNE, in High St. Agnesgate, of the foundation and structure of some unknown local benefactor in the 15th century, accommodates eight poor women with apartments and a small pension. In 1869 the old buildings were removed, and others erected a few yards behind the old site. For these commodious dwellings the inmates are indebted to the munificence of Miss Elizabeth Greenwood, of West Lodge, Ripon, and of her sister, the late Miss Caroline Greenwood. Their brother, Henry Greenwood, Esq., during his lifetime, augmented the endowment of the hospital by the handsome gift of 1000*l.* The little chapel of the old foundation still remains in a state of picturesque decay, retaining the piscina and altar-stone, on which tradition asserts that the ransom of a Scottish king was paid. A stone bearing the arms of Sir Solomon Swale, of South Stainley, with the date 1664, has been walled into the window towards the street.

THE HOSPITAL OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, near Bondgate bridge, owes its origin to Thomas, second archbishop of York, who was translated to that See in 1109. The old chapel, which was in no way remarkable, was evidently built about the time of Edward II.; it was much enlarged in 1812, and converted into a national school, which was very properly removed elsewhere in 1853, when the building was again dedicated to its sacred purpose. In 1869 the NEW CHAPEL was erected at a cost of 1300*l.* It is a rectangular building, with apsidal chancel, and is carried out in the late pointed style. The west gable is surmounted with a wrought stone bell cot, in which the bell is placed. On removing this bell from the old chapel, the following inscription was discovered:—*CAMPANELLA: HOSITALIS: S: JOHANNIS: JUXTA: RIPON: 1663. I.W. M^o.*

JEPSON'S HOSPITAL, in Water Skellgate, was founded in 1672, by Zacharias Jepson, of York, apothecary, and a native of this place, who bequeathed 3000*l.* to feoffees to purchase



SOUTH ELEVATION OF HOSPITAL AND CHAPEL.

MAISON DE DIEU HOSPITAL—EXPLANATION OF PLATES.
Since Mr. Walbran wrote his guide, the original plan of the hospital has been ascertained, and a document has been found which throws much light upon these arrangements. In 1872 Rev. W. C. Lukis published a brief account of this Hospital from which the following is extracted.

We learn that the hospital was founded for four men, four women, and one priest, with two common beds for wayfarers. This document also implies that there was no endowment, and that the hospital was supported by the alms of the public, which were solicited from time to time by letters testimonial, granted by archbishops of the province, on application. In this instance the applicants were Seth Snawsell, of Bilton, and Robert Stokes, of Bykerton, both in this county, who state that "the chappell and massendew is founded by our ancestor." Most probably the foundation occurred a short while before the year 1438, for in this year John Graynby, rector of a moiety of South Otterington, near Thirsk, bequeathed a sum of money for a priest to celebrate for him "in capella vocata le masendieu, Ripon;" and the architectural features of the chapel seem to point to this period.

It is in the third pointed or perpendicular style; the window mouldings are simple, and poor in character. The east window, in its general outline, is apparently an imitation of one of an earlier date, and consists of two cusped lights with a quatrefoil in the head, contained within a pointed arch. The south window is square-headed, of two lights; a corresponding window was formerly on the north side, and is now walled up. When this was done a shield was inserted on the outside of the wall, and is said to bear the coat of arms of Sir Solomon Swale, of South Stainley. The chapel contains a stone altar slab, upon two rude stone supports.

The entrance arch into the chapel is a striking feature on account of its elevation. It is of the same date as the rest of the building, and the half-piers are semi-circular, and capped in a peculiar manner with a kind of triple bracket for capital. The

gable over this arch was surmounted with a bell-cot, the moulded base of which still remains in situ. On each side of this entrance, there probably stood a benatura, or holy water stoup, for the separate use of the men and women as they passed into the chapel. One of these stoups is now placed on a stone base that did not originally belong to it, and in a position it did not occupy when it was used.

The accompanying plan represents the hospital as it was before the interior space was made into separate dwellings; when this was effected there was no longer any use for the two large fire places opposite to each other, and they were removed. A fragment of a stone fender was found in one of these fire places, and also one of the upper stones of the chimney shaft. The foundations of the fire places were discovered when the hospital was pulled down in 1869. When this regrettable act was committed, it was discovered that there had been two small fire places in corresponding positions at the extreme west ends of the north and south walls. The discovery of these four fire places has helped in arriving at some idea of the original internal arrangement, being assisted therein by the ancient letter testimonial previously mentioned.

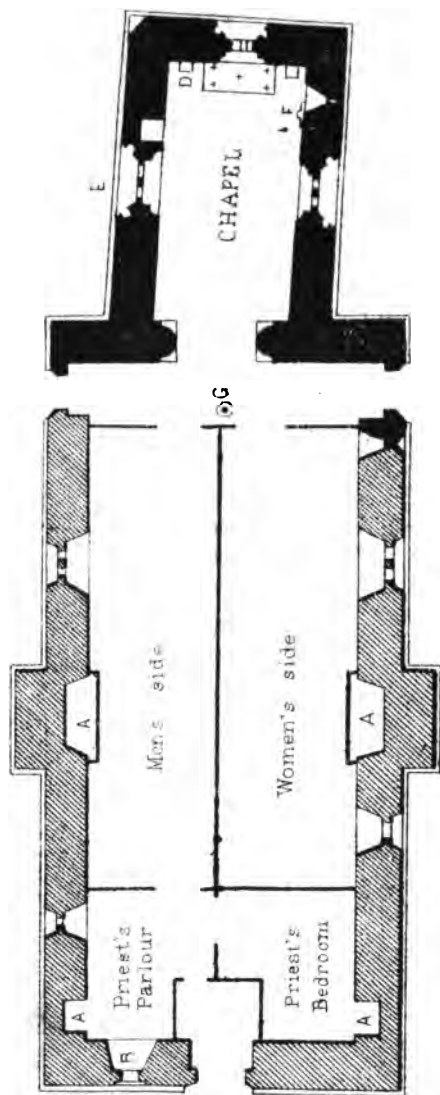
There was therefore to be accommodation for one priest and eight poor folks, men and women and for two common beds for wayfarers. In the plan these requirements are taken into consideration. The four fire places and the document seem to tell exactly what the arrangement was. There was a western doorway, by which the priest entered into his apartments. The small fire place indicate this end of the building as the portion allotted to him. There were two other doorways, placed opposite to each other, at the east end of the hospital, which, as well as the two large fire places, were for the separate use of the male and female inmates. The partitions were doubtless formed of wood, and the doors of communication were as indicated on the plan. By this arrangement direct access was gained to the chapel by the kinds of occupants respectively — by the priest through the men's room, and by the men and women through the doors of their respective apartments.

AAAA. Fire places.

F. Piscina.

Portion shaded thus  destroyed in 1869.

G. Stoup.



PLAN OF THE MAISON DE DIEU HOSPITAL, RIPON
with supposed internal arrangement of Hospital

lands for the maintenance and education of twenty orphan boys, or poor freemen's sons, of the town of Ripon, who were to be admitted at the age of seven years. This institution has subsequently received benefactions, but the injudicious investment of the original funds, and a claim made upon the estate by the testator's widow, caused the number of boys to be reduced to ten.

THE FREE GRAMMAR SCHOOL, in High St. Agnesgate, was first founded in 1546, by King Edward VI., but incorporated by Philip and Mary, 27th June, 1555, and endowed chiefly from the revenues of the chantries of the Assumption of the blessed Virgin Mary, St. James the Apostle, St. John the Evangelist, and the blessed Virgin Mary in Ripon, which had come to the crown at the dissolution of the chantries. Matthew Hutton, archbishop of Canterbury; Bishop Porteus; and Archdeacon Thomas Balguy, were among the eminent men who received instruction here.

THE TOWN HALL, on the south side of the Market-place, was built from a design by Wyatt, in 1801, at the expense of Mrs. Allanson, of Studley. In the assembly room is a full-length portrait of Mrs. Allanson; and a characteristic bust in marble of Mrs. Lawrence, her niece, by Mr. Angus Fletcher.

The present WESLEYAN METHODIST CHAPEL, on Coltsgate Hill, was built in 1860-1, it stands on the site of an older chapel, erected in 1777. The chapel of the NEW CONNEXION OF METHODISTS, in the Turk's-head yard, Low Skellgate, was built in 1795; and abandoned in 1860 for a handsome structure in the Early Decorated style, in Blossomgate, called Zion Chapel. The Temple, or CALVINIST CHAPEL, was built in 1818, near Allhallowgate. In 1870-1 the members of this denomination erected a handsome new Congregational Church, in the Early Decorated style, having a spire about 100 feet high, in a field called "Town Close," near the north road. There is a chapel for the PRIMITIVE METHODISTS, in Priest Lane, built in 1821, which was enlarged in 1841.

A very handsome ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, in the Lombardo Early Decorated style, has been erected, together with a picturesque and substantial house for the priest, on Coltsgate

Hill. The corner stone was laid on the 21st of November, 1860, and the building opened for worship in April, 1862. The altar and reredos are from a design by Mr. Pugin, and are most elaborately carved. Below the slab are three compartments containing sculptures representing the Gathering of the Manna; our Lord as the Consoler of the Afflicted; and the Sacrifice of Abel. The whole of this rich workmanship reaches a height of 20 feet, but the centre canopy runs 10 feet higher still. The two large sculptures represent The Preaching of St. Wilfrid at the dedication of his Monastery at Ripon; and his Death at Oundle, in Northamptonshire.

The MECHANICS' INSTITUTION was established 26th February, 1831, and associated with a literary society in 1844. Its advantages having been long misunderstood and neglected, it was held in an insufficient and hired apartment until 1849; when, on the manifestation of a more enlightened taste, an independent building was erected by subscription at the east end of the Public Rooms.

A NATIONAL SCHOOL for boys, conducted on Dr. Bell's plan, was held, from its commencement in 1812, in St. John's Chapel, in Bondgate, until 1853, when a more spacious and convenient building was erected, at a cost of 900*l.*, on a site granted by the Dean and Chapter, in a field adjoining Priest lane. The school is now conducted on the National Society's system. Another for girls, established originally in 1803 as a Sunday School, is kept in a building in High St. Agnesgate, erected by the late Mrs. Lawrence, of Studley. There are also National Schools in connection with Trinity Church, the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel, and the Roman Catholic Church.

THE DIOCESAN TRAINING COLLEGE, for the education of mistresses for National Schools, was opened at Ripon in August, 1862, when the establishment was removed from York, but continued to be governed by the same body up to 1871. It is now under the direction of the Ripon Diocesan Board of Education. The building, which is large and commodious, stands prominently on rising ground behind the Crescent, and accommodates 62 students. The foundation stone was laid by

the Lord Bishop of Ripon on the 4th of December, 1860.

A DISPENSARY was commenced in Ripon as early as 1790, but, lacking sufficient endowment, it was held in a dwelling-house, until the bequest of 1000*l.* by the late Mrs. Lawrence was judiciously expended, in 1850, in the erection of a suitable building in Ferraby Lane. It has recently been conducted with a most beneficial result.

A great local accommodation was acquired in 1833, by the institution of the PUBLIC ROOMS, in Low Skellgate. A commodious mansion, with a garden extending to the river behind, was first purchased by shareholders, and appropriated chiefly to the establishment of a circulating library and a news room; but the project having been encouraged, another building, containing an apartment 52 feet by 26 feet, and suitable for general public assemblies, was erected in addition in 1834.

A TEMPERANCE HALL was erected in 1869, by shareholders, at a cost of 800*l.* It is situated in Duck Hill, near the post office, and accommodates about 300 persons.

In 1830 a joint-stock company established GAS WORKS. They are now, however, the property of the corporation, and have been improved and enlarged to meet the increased requirements of the city. The gas house is in Stammergeate.

In 1776 a private individual constructed WATER WORKS in the mill at Duck-hill; but the supply being deficient, and the quality of the water very impure, the corporation took the matter in hand. During the mayoralty of Mr. Alderman Ascough, a new building was erected on the banks of the Yore, and an extensive system of service pipes was laid down.

In 1767 an enterprising party, by the aid of the celebrated Smeaton, rendered a portion of the river Yore navigable, and formed a canal from the river to the city. In 1845 the interests and property of the proprietors were transferred to the Leeds and Thirsk Railway Company.

According to the enumeration made on the 2nd of April, 1871, there were in Ripon and the appurtenant township of Bondgate, 1673 houses, and 6874 inhabitants, being an increase of 635 inhabitants since the census of 1861.



STUDLEY HALL.

STUDLEY ROYAL.

In shadier bower
 More sacred and sequester'd, though but feigned,
 Pan or Sylvanus never slept, nor Nymph,
 Nor Faunus haunted.

MILTON, PAR. LOST, B. IV. 705.

HN agreeable stroll through our western suburb, and the wooded copses that rise in gentle undulation from the banks of the Laver beyond, leads us to the far-famed scenes of Studley Royal. A volume would be insufficient to discuss the diversified beauties with which it abounds; and the utmost that can be attempted here is to state facts that may be useful to the enquiring eye, and become a memorial for the retrospective mind.

For five centuries, the families of Aleman, Le Gras, Tempest, and Mallory, each of which produced men eminent and useful in their generation, enjoyed, successively, a domain which the potency of their neighbours forbade them to enlarge; and found in their deep meads and waving woods a quiet and simple enjoyment, which until the dawn of the eighteenth century was not deemed capable of being transmuted to that

source of intellectual gratification in which countless thousands have since participated. John Aislable, who from the rank of a country gentleman raised himself by the vigour of his intellect to the office of chancellor of the exchequer, was then possessed of Studley Royal, in right of his mother, Mary, the eldest daughter and co-heiress of Sir John Mallory, an heroic and loyal knight. He saw the rare beauties that nature offered in profusion around his ancestral home, and, after he had exchanged the tumult of the political arena for the more sincere pleasures and occupations of a country life, nobly and energetically devoted himself to their development. The little copses that surrounded the antique manor house were changed into an extensive park; diverging avenues supplanted intersecting hedge rows, the beck was expanded into a lake, the mansion was fashioned into correspondence with its noble accompaniments; and lastly, a portion of the little valley of the Skell, that intersected his park, was transformed into a most delectable pleasure ground. William Aislable, his only son, enjoyed the leisure of a long life in maintaining and extending what his father had done. His eldest co-heir, Mrs. Allanson, was precluded by the delicacy of her health from residing at Studley; and on her decease, in 1808, it devolved, with the rest of her extensive possessions, on her niece and heir, Mrs. Lawrence, than whom none could have tended them with a more liberal and faithful hand. On the decease of Mrs. Lawrence, in July, 1845, the whole of the estate at Studley became vested, by the provisions of her will, in the Right Hon. the Earl de Grey, one of whose ancestors married a sister of the Chancellor Aislable. His lordship died November 14th, 1859, and was succeeded by his nephew, the Right Hon. the Earl de Grey and Ripon, who acquired the title of Marquess of Ripon in acknowledgment of his services on the Alabama Commission in 1871.

After passing through the village of Studley, and arriving at the park lodge, the eye is restrained from excursion into the woodlands by a noble avenue of limes, above a mile in length, that guides our path and directs the eye to the Church, lately erected by the present noble owner, and of which more will be

said hereafter. The MANSION HOUSE, which retains a fragment as early as the fifteenth century, may be seen whilst rising the hill, at some distance on the right; but it is not shown to visitors.

Midway the park, we diverge to the left, down a beechen avenue to the little valley of the Skell, where the stream, conducted by a formal cascade with all due accompaniment of balcony and turret, expands into a LAKE covering twelve acres. A number of domestic fowls enliven its expanse with their gambols and evolutions, while anon

"The Swan, with arched neck
Between her white wings mantling, proudly rows
Her state with oary feet."

The banks rise swiftly from the water's edge, clothed with dense woods, through whose commingled beech and chestnut shade we reach the gates.

The disposition of the grounds may be easily perceived. The original design of the Chancellor Aislabe, who commenced operations about 1720, aided by his skilful gardener, Mr. Wm. Fisher, was to contract the devious beck into a level parallelogramic canal, adorned with statues on its terraced banks, and bounded by dense hedges of evergreens which sheltered an ample valley, whence, through openings artfully contrived, a diversity of prospects could be obtained. A prudent and judicious respect for the old arrangement is still preserved, but modified so as not to offend modern hypercriticism by its antiquated state. The extreme contraction of the valley, and the proportionate inclination of its declivity, favoured the design, and allowed the extension of walks through the luxuriant thickets above, whence a new and more extensive series of prospects could be obtained, and more natural beauties developed. An interchange of scenery from a few hundred yards on each side of the river (crossed then, as now, at the rustic bridge), was thus, with the upper walks on the right, all that the adjacent demesne of Fountains allowed the projector to obtain; but when his son, who, wisely relying on his own ability, often declined the officious offers of Kent and Brown, purchased

the abbey, he continued the walk from below Anne Boleyn's Seat, up the southern bank of the circling stream, and after circumventing that "noble wreck in ruinous perfection," brought it down the opposite side of the valley, and so joined the old decorated grounds at Tent Hill, where he erected a temple, long since fortunately destroyed.

With this rough outline we will proceed. After leaving the gates, shrouded in lofty and luxuriant trees and evergreens of stately growth, that remind us, especially when looking towards the balcony of the lake, of the incomparable Versailles, and many a delectable but ever-banished scene of our own "fair good lande," a bank of closely-shaven laurel first meets the eye, that would wander more willingly up a long and solemn glade that diverges from the valley, called KENDALL'S WALK.

By the side of one of those gigantic beeches, whose altitude is forgotten while passing under their grateful shade, we have a glance of the OCTAGON TOWER rising abruptly on the other side of the valley; and, by the water below, a cast in lead of TWO CONTENDING GLADIATORS.

Still passing behind the dense wall of yew, with its lofty canopy, we are surprised by a prospect, set in a verdant frame, of the valley in its widest part; the TEMPLE OF PIETY in the opposite wood; the MOON and CRESCENT PONDS, and their accompanying statues of NEPTUNE, BACCHUS, and GALEN.

The uninformed lover of nature, as well as the scientific observer, will alike gladly halt on the declining lawn to view the noble trees that tower aloft before them in wonderful height and beauty. A NORWAY SPRUCE FIR, near the walk, and straight to the top, displays luxuriance seldom equalled but in its native land. It is 132 feet high, $12\frac{1}{2}$ feet in circumference above its roots, and would form an impervious shade to an assembly of at least fifty persons. Another fir nearer the canal, which canopies the statue of the Dying Gladiator, is 11 feet 2 inches in circumference, and equally symmetrical as its companion, which being more disengaged claims readier attention. A third, near the last, is but eight feet in circumference. None of these, however, should disengage the eye from a

HEMLOCK SPRUCE, of most graceful form and foliage, the stem of which has attained the height of 60, and the circumference of 7 feet. These trees having been planted by the Chancellor Aislabie, about 1720, may be a useful criterion in estimating the growth of their species. Upon a slope to the right stands a *Wellingtonia Gigantea*, planted on the 6th of August, 1863, by H. R. H. the Princess of Wales, in commemoration of her first visit to Studley Royal.

The old "peeps" are soon resumed, and the first is a surprise, across a declining bank of laurel and yew, overhung with more graceful foliage, down the long canal and so to the great lake in the park—the Moon and Crescent Ponds, with their several terraces and statues filling the bosom of the valley on the right, and the Octagon Tower rising in the mid distance from a clump of firs. Soon after, we have another diversion through the laurels towards the statues of HERCULES and ANTEUS in contention, in the most contracted pass of the dell; and a pillared DOME in the hanging woods beyond.

Diverging, reluctantly, from the path rising through the woods towards the abbey, we cross, to the opposite side of the valley, over a RUSTIC BRIDGE, where the stream is seen gliding tranquilly through verdant space adorned with terraces, and begirt with ancient trees. But, before we reach the other side of the valley, we stray into a wooded amphitheatre, filled with a translucent Lake, whose refreshing expanse mirrors but the embrowned shades of accliving woods, and the airy forms of an inconstant sky.

Anon, and the eye, that will be gladdened by nothing but Nature, naked and unadorned, now peers joyfully through the thicket on an irregular pool, where circumambient boughs image their glistening spray, and lave in waters that seem black and bottomless as oblivion. It is called "QUEBEC," and on its little island is a Pillar, now hidden in the tangled foliage, to the memory of the gallant Wolfe.

A few steps more, and the expanse of the valley, in all its formality, yet, perhaps, in all its peculiar beauty, opens upon us near the temple that rises in the grove by our side. The build-

ing is named the **TEMPLE OF PIETY**, the chief apartment being adorned with a mural basso-relievo of a female nourishing her captive father from her breast. The bronze busts in the niches below contrast the characteristic heads of **TITUS** and **NERO**.

Awhile, and the scene which has been so airy and vivid is suddenly changed. Striking aside from the lawn into the wood, we wind up a toilsome path—by the sides of which, yews of no recent growth are rooted in the fissures of the shelving crag—and enter, at length, a subterranean Passage, hewn partially in the rock. It seems neither long enough nor dark enough for the majority of its youthful visitants, but a local difficulty was thus pleasantly overcome.

From the Octagon Tower which during our ramble we have often seen, and now reached at last, we have a bird's-eye view of many of the objects we have visited. Studley Hall, too, is seen on the right; and from the opposite window, **HOW HILL**,* with its mimic tower, rears its majestic head.

Though now passing a long and artless avenue of beech, unfortunately mingled with the grisly fir, we seem to tread the woodland slopes of the park, and are gladdened, through the slanting boughs, by its lowing herds and coursing groups of agile deer; we turn again, ere long, down a lofty aisle “of beechen green, and shadows numberless,” where the fitful murmur of the rushing stream reminds us of our elevated position. An opening towards the park presents a view of **MORKERSHAW LODGE**; and another of the **ROMAN MONUMENT**, impending high above the Skell. At length, we turn on the opposite side to a circular pillared dome, jutting into the valley, dedicated to Fame, and on all other sides similarly difficult of access.

* This hill, which rises in a conical form to the height of 622 feet above the level of the sea, and forms a remarkable object at a distance of more than twenty miles, is worthy of a visit from those whose time is not limited, and would consider themselves repaid by an almost boundless view of the great plain of York. It was anciently called Herleshow, as probably from being the place where the Saxon Earl of the County held his Court, as from its early possession of one who bore the name of Herle. The monks of Fountains had on the top of this hill a Chapel dedicated to St. Michael, which from an inscription walled into the present little tower, erected by Mr. Aislabie, in 1718, appears to have been rebuilt or repaired by Abbot Huby, between 1494 and 1526. **SOLI DEO HONOR M. H. ET GLORIA.**

Pursuing hence the ample path, which noble oaks "high over arch'd embower," snatching, nevertheless, through the airy spray, occasional glimpses of the coming "Fountain dale," we arrive at ANNE BOLEYN'S SEAT, where the guide, with



FOUNTAINS ABBEY FROM ANNE BOLEYN'S SEAT.

innocent triumph, was wont to throw open the doors and unveil to the amazed and enraptured eye a scene where pen and pencil must fail.

Now, all attention is naturally centred in the abbey, and fortunately, there is nothing intervening to distract the eye. We begin, immediately, to hasten down a precipice, arched,

deeply and picturesquely, in the woods ; and, on arriving at the path by the side of the stream, will perhaps scarcely glance at the diversity of scenes which the union of the dense woods with their liquid mirror presents.

Yet awhile may fancy beguile us with merry visions of the past. On this glade—doubt who can—the “Curtal Friar” of Fountains encountered Robin Hood, whom, as the old ballad goes, he at length threw into the Skell, and so grievously belaboured, that Robin, for once, turned coward, and called in the aid of his fifty stalwart yeomen ; also that then the Friar whistled out as many of his good ban-dogs, but that Little John let his arrows fly so fast among them that the Friar, who

“Had kept Fountain-dale,
Seven long years and more,”

was brought to his senses and a truce. Before we reach the abbey, we shall be seduced to halt on a shady knoll ; and, while reclining by the crystal WELL that still bears the Out-law’s name, may chant the “Rime of Robin Hod” in one of the sweetest spots associated with his name.

Tradition points to the figures of a large bow and arrow and hound, graven on the north-east angle of the Lady Chapel, as a record of this dire affray. They bear no affinity to the symbols used by the masons ; but have, I fancy, induced the report, mentioned by Ritson, that Robin’s bow and arrow were preserved at Fountains Abbey.



THE OLD HALL AT STUDLEY.



"FOUNTAINS OLD, BY MICHAEL-HOW."

FOUNTAINS ABBEY.

ALTHOUGH we have, some time ago, entered the close, we now pass into the immediate precinct of the abbey, and see at once before us "a captivating scene of landscape and architectural beauty, a highly interesting subject of contemplation, and a source of that pensive and pleasing melancholy in which the mind sometimes loves to indulge." Before, however, we proceed to a particular survey of the structure, it will be necessary to premise a few facts illustrative of its origin and history.

The site of the Monastery was granted, in 1132, by Turstan, archbishop of York, out of his Liberty of Ripon, "to certain monks who had separated themselves from what they deemed the lax discipline of the Benedictine Abbey of St. Mary, in York, and resolved to adopt the Cistercian rule, which was then becoming famous from the reputed sanctity and daring enthusiasm of St. Bernard. Richard the Prior, with the

sub-Prior, ten monks of St. Mary's, and Robert a monk of Whitby, retired, in the depth of winter, to this secluded, and at that period, wild and uncultivated dell, where their territory was defined by the archbishop, who had previously maintained them in his house. At first, their only shelter was under the impending rocks ; but, after a while, they thatched an enclosure under an umbrageous elm, in the middle of the valley, which was even flourishing at the dissolution of the abbey. Some yew trees, also, near the ruin, are traditionally said to have sheltered these enthusiastic men." The winter having passed away, they began to consult about the mode of life they should henceforth pursue, and seeing no way more direct to the perfection they had in view than the adoption of the Cistercian rule, they sent messengers to St. Bernard, informing him that they had chosen him as their spiritual father, and were ready to obey his commands. Accordingly Geoffrey, a monk of Clairvaux, was sent to instruct them, by whose advice they erected humble places of abode and laid out the several necessary offices. Meanwhile seven clerks and ten laymen were admitted, but no property was acquired and they were still dependent on their old benefactor for the means of livelihood. Ere long a famine arose in the country and oppressed the brethren severely, for they had neither bread nor provisions wherewith to relieve the wants of the poor who resorted to them. Having endured for two years such hardship as at length to subsist on boiled leaves and herbs, their patience began to fail. The abbat, therefore, almost desperate, went over sea to St. Bernard, and begged that he would remove them to one of the granges of his abbey of Clairvaux, in Champagne. Their request was granted, but whilst the abbat was yet beyond sea, Hugh, dean of York, feeling his health declining, retired to Fountains, bringing with him not only a great store of money and personal property, but a valuable collection of books of the Holy Scriptures. The aspect of affairs in Skelldale being thus changed for the better on the return of abbat Richard, the projected emigration was abandoned.

It was about this time, I presume, when a permanent settle-

ment seemed probable, that the place of their residence, with other lands, was legally conveyed to the monks by the charter of Archbishop Turstin, of which the following is a translation.

TURSTAN, by the grace of God Archbishop of York, to the Archbishop of Canterbury, and to all Bishops, Abbats, Clerks, Barons, and Laymen of all England, and to their successors, greeting. We make known to you all, that we have given in alms to God and St. Mary of Fountains, and to the Abbat and Monks, part of the Wood of Herleshow, according to the boundary which we have pointed out to Richard, the first Abbat of the same place; and that we have allowed (or conceded) that portion of land which Wallef, son of Archil, our vassal, gave to the same church, which is adjoining the same wood in which we have founded the said church. Moreover we have given to the aforesaid church, two carucates of land, in wood and open ground in Sutton, except one ploughland which lies on the east side of the way leading from Ripon to Stainley; and let this be clear to you all, forasmuch as they have professed to live according to the rule of the Blessed Benedict. All the aforesaid things we have granted in alms aforesaid; quit and free of all land-service due to us and our successors, under these witnesses:—Witness, William the Dean, and William the Treasurer, Hugh the Precentor, Osbert the Archdeacon, Walter the Archdeacon, Fulk the Canon, Serlo the Canon, William de Percy, Anfrid the Canon, Garfrid the Canon, Achard the Canon, Letold the Canon, and all the Canons of St. Peter. Witnesses also, William Marton, and Robert de Pinkney, and Simon, and Clibert, and Gislebert, Canons of St. Wilfrid. Witness also, William the Steward, and Robert the Constable, and William Unahait, and Richard the Thief-taker, and Hugh son of Hulric, and Robert of Herleshow, and Wallef of Studley, and Richard his brother, and Hulchil the Bailiff.

But the settlers in Skelldale were to be again enriched by members of the church of York. Serlo, one of its canons, and Tosti, a fellow canon—a jocund and social man withal—retired here with their wealth, and enriched the Order with much personal property. Shortly after this Robert de Sartis and Reginalda his wife, owners of the vill of Herlshow, a district in which the abbey had been founded, conveyed it to them with some contiguous lands and the forest of Warshall. Then too, Serlo de Pembroke, owner of the adjacent vill of Cayton, being on the point of death, bestowed that fertile estate upon them. They also procured from King Stephen, when at York in 1135, the necessary confirmation of these possessions, and an attendant exemption from all aids, taxes, danegelds, assisses, pleas, and scutages, as well as of all customs and land service due to superior lords. Such, briefly, was the temporal position which the monks had acquired within three years after they sat homeless under the elm tree, having laid the foundation of that magnificence of which such ample testimonies remain.

LIST OF THE ABBATS OF FOUNTAINS.

NO.	ABBATS' NAMES.	PERIOD OF ABBACY.	WHERE BURIED.	HOW VACANT.
1	Richard, ex-Prior of St. Mary's York.	1132—1139	At Rome .	Death.
2	Richard	1139—1143	Clarevaux .	Death.
3	Henry Murdac, elected Archbishop of York	1143—1153?	York Cathedral	Death?
	Maurice of Rievaulx .	Abt. 3 mths.	. . . . .	Resignation.
	Thorold of Rievaulx .	About 2 yrs.	. . . . .	Resignation.
4	Richard Fastolph, Prior of Clarevaux .	1153—1170	Chap. H. Fountains	Death.
5	Robert, Abbat of Pipewell	1170—1179	Chapter House F.	Death.
6	William, Abbat of Newminster	1179—1190	Chapter House F.	Death.
7	Ralph Haget	1190—1203	Chapter House F.	Death.
8	John de Ebor	1203—1211	Chapter House F.	Death.
9	John, afterwards Bishop of Ely	1211—1219	Ely Cathedral .	Promotion.
10	John de Cancia	1220—1247	Chapter House F.	Death.
11	Stephen de Eston	1247—1252	Chapter H. Vaudy	Death.
12	William de Allerton	1252—1258	Chapter House F.	Death.
13	Adam	1258—1259	Chapter House F.	Death.
14	Alexander	1259—1265	Chapter House F.	Death.
15	Reginald	1265—1274	Chapter House F.	Death.
	Peter Alyngs	1275—1279	Chapter House F.	Res. or Dep.
16	Nicholas	6 months	Chapter House F.	Death.
17	Adam Ravensworth	1280—1284	Chapter House F.	Death.
	Henry Otley	1284—1289	Chapter House F.	Resignation?
	Robert Thornton	1289	Chapter House F.	Resignation?
18	Richard Bishopton	1289—1310	Chapter House F.	Death.
19	William Rigton	1311—1316	Chapter House F.	Death.
20	Walter Coxwold	1316—1336	Chapter House F.	Resignation.
21	Robert Copgrove	1336-1345-6	Chapter House F.	Death.
22	Robert Monkton	1346—1369	The Church F.	Death.
23	William Gower, B.D.	1369—1383	Nine Altars F.	Resignation.
24	Robert Burley	1383—1410	Choir Fountains	Death.
	Roger Frank, intruder	1410—1414	. . . . .	Expulsion.
25	John Ripon	1414-1434-5	Nave of Church F.	Death.
26	Thomas Passelew	1434-5-1442	Nave of Church F.	Resignation.
27	John Martin	Seven weeks	Nave of Church F.	Death.
28	John Greenwell, D.D.	1442—1471	. . . . .	. . . . .
29	Thomas Swinton	1471—1479	. . . . .	Resignation.
30	John Darnton	1479-1493-4	. . . . .	. . . . .
31	Marmaduke Huby	1494—1526	. . . . .	Death.
32	William Thirsk, B.D.	1526-1536-7	. . . . .	Resignation.
33	Marmaduke Bradley	1536-7-1539	. . . . .	Resignation.

For facility of reference to inscriptions and records, the enumeration used by the monks themselves is adopted; but it must be observed that it excludes Maurice and Thorold, who, I presume, were only deputies to Archbishop Murdac, and also Alyngs, Otley, Thornton, and Frank.

Shortly after, many of the devoted men, from whose exertions such great results had flowed, were to be called away to labour in distant vineyards. In 1137, Ralph de Merlay, a powerful Northumbrian baron, having witnessed the conversation of the fraternity at Fountains, erected a monastery near his castle of Morpeth, which received the name of Newminster. On the 5th of January, 1138, a colony of twelve monks, with Robert as their abbat, who afterwards attained the honours of sanctity, departed to take possession of the place. The result of their labours may be judged from the fact that, within ten years they had supplied members for three important convents—Pipewell abbey in Northamptonshire, Sawley abbey in Craven, and Roche abbey in South Yorkshire. Within two years two other colonies emigrated from Skelldale. One body of monks under the abbacy of Robert de Siwella, took possession of the abbey of Kirkstead, on the banks of the Witham, founded by Hugh Fitz Eudo; whilst another, under Geoffrey the backslider, established a convent at Haverholme, not far from the town of Sleaford. The latter colony, however, became dissatisfied with their situation, and were removed by their founder to the vicinity of Louth. In 1145 Hugh de Bolebec consecrated the vill of Woburn, with an adjacent estate, to divine uses, and founded the abbey of Woburn in Bedfordshire, for which abbat Murdac supplied him with the requisite number of monks. The next year was distinguished by an undertaking of a more bold and interesting description; Sigward, bishop of Bergen in Norway, being in England, was attracted to Fountains, and, influenced by their mode of religious life, besought the abbat to furnish him with the spiritual means for establishing a Cistercian monastery in his own country. Murdac discussed the proposition with his brethren, and thirteen of them having consented to brave the perils of a missionary life in a barbarous country, they departed from Fountains on the 10th of July, 1146, and established the monastery of Lysa, situate in a valley a little to the south of Bergen. Henry de Lacy, of Pontefract Castle, having been visited with a protracted illness, vowed the erection of a Cistercian monastery, and assigned the vill of Bernoldswic in Craven

for that purpose. On the 19th of May, 1147, Alexander the Prior of the monastery and one of its first fathers, with twelve of his brethren, amongst whom was the Chronicler Serlo, went forth to take possession. But the climate proved unsuitable, and after a trial of five years they abandoned the site for a fertile spot in Airedale, where arose the abbey of Kirkstall. Within five days after the departure of the monks to Bernoldswic, another convent, with Warine as their abbot, were sent out to institute an establishment at Bytham in Lincolnshire, some time after removed to Vaudey abbey. Meaux abbey, founded in 1150 by the Earl of Albemarle, was the last of the daughters of Fountains. Adam, one of the original settlers in Skelldale, was its first abbat.

The history of the abbey is minutely related in "Memorials of Fountains Abbey," from the narrative of Hugh, a monk of Kirkstall, written between 1225 and 1247, at the request of John, abbat of Fountains, from the dictation of the venerable monk Serlo, who was present at the departure of the brethren from St. Mary's, at York, and had witnessed most of the chequered scenes he has so pathetically and graphically recorded. Yet, as he was more anxious to recount the spiritual trials and triumphs of his brethren than the secular history of their house, we find few allusions to the progress of the structure, or to the scientific acquirements of those by whom it was promoted. We learn, however, that after the election of the abbat, Henry Murdac, to the see of York, about 1146, some partisans of his deposed predecessor, disappointed in their expectation of finding Murdac here, set fire to the monastery, which, with half of "the oratory," was consumed. The convent, aided by the neighbouring gentry, immediately repaired an injury, which, however extensive, had doubtless been confined to the inflammable portions of the building; but, since every part of it had been erected within fourteen years, existing remains cannot aid us in the investigation. During the remainder of the twelfth century, the work of building never can have ceased, though it is probable, from our knowledge of the characters of the abbats Fastolph, and his successor,

Robert, that in their time it progressed with unusual vigour. On the decease of Ralph the seventh abbat, in 1203—a period when there was such an unusual number of monks in the house, that there was no fitting place for the performance of their devotions—John, his successor, a stout-hearted Yorkshireman, who maintained in the retirement of the cloister the politic temper of the world, projected the erection of a choir, to the astonishment—nay, the indignation—of his contemporaries. He lived only to lay the foundation and raise some pillars, but he left a kindred spirit in another John, who succeeded him in 1211, and after a diligent superintendence of eight years was elected Bishop of Ely. The Convent then availed themselves of the ability of a third John, a Kentish man, who, with a vigour of mind like that of the original projector, brought the design to a conclusion. He not only instituted the nine altars, and added a “painted pavement,” but, in prosecution of an original project, constructed the southern half of the great dormitory of the monks, with an undercroft for the purpose of an ambulatory; an infirmary; and, as it has been said, two houses for the entertainment of strangers. It would appear, however, from their ruins that he only enlarged them considerably. These particular works are ascribed to him by the continuator of the Chronicle; but, I apprehend, he wrote too long after the period to be able to do full justice to his energy and ability; and the style of the abbat’s house, in particular, apparently assigns to him the distinction of having erected one of the noblest works of domestic architecture that was raised within the kingdom, in his time. It was so utterly ruined after the dissolution of the abbey, that its ground plan has only been recently disclosed: but, if my conjecture is well founded, traces of one apartment, not less, than 171 feet long and 70 feet wide, partly built on tunnels above the river, may alone attest such boldness of conception and scientific skill as to excite unusual regret that Time has preyed upon his memory. He died in 1247, having probably seen the buildings of the abbey nearly completed. “A period of subsequent poverty and distress was followed by great prosperity

in the next century. Many persons of power and opulence purchased, by large donations, a sepulture within the walls of the abbey.* Favoured by popes, kings, and prelates, with various immunities and privileges, and enriched by a succession of princely gifts, Fountains abbey became one of the wealthiest

* The Surtees Society have published, under the editorship of the author of this book, the Chronicle of the abbey, a most interesting and acceptable work to historical enquirers. The present noble owner of the Monastery helped on the work with a hearty good-will, in every possible way; and, "with hereditary munificence, threw open to the Society his Muniment room at Studley." One among the many charters in his lordship's possession will interest every visitor. It is the grant of that portion of ground which hemmed in the monks, until the donor's day, on the north-side—those pleasant fields from which the sketch of the abbey tower and How-hill on page 90 is taken. It may be necessary to mention that "Keldale" is that dry valley which runs up from the Canal Gates to the Horse Coppice in the Leases-pasture. "CHARTER OF CASSANDRA DE ESTODLEY.—To all sons of Holy Church, present and to come, Cassandra de Estodley, widow of John the Doorkeeper, sends greeting. Know ye that I, in my widowhood, and in my lawful right, have given, and by my present charter have confirmed, to God and the Monks of ST. MARY of Fountains, the whole land and whatever belongs to my fee in Estodley, in the whole parcel of arable which is called Swanley. That is to say by these boundaries: as the ditch begins at the Close of the Abbey of Fountains on the eastern part of Swanley, and goes to Keldale, and so by the edge of the valley of Keldale to the boundaries of Aldfield, and so by the boundaries of Aldfield on the western part of Swanley to the Close of the said Abbey: to inclose and do therein whatsoever they may wish, as of their proper and perpetual possession. And I and my heirs will warrant, acquit, and defend the whole of that land for the Church of Fountains, as our eleemosynary gift, discharged free and quit from all services and charges relating to the land. Moreover, I have given in my lawful right to the aforesaid Monks, all the right and franchise which I and my heirs and ancestors have had in one carucate of land, which is of our fee in Malham, and especially an annual rent-charge of four shillings, which the men who hold the said land have been accustomed to pay to me and my ancestors; for the health of my soul, and that of all my ancestors and heirs. These being witnesses: Matthew the Clerk of Ripon, Nicholas de Cayton, Matthew the For-ester, and Robert his brother, Geoffrey de Merkinfield, Robert the Fowler, John de Cluderum."



monasteries in the kingdom. The church ranked amongst the fairest structures of the land; and the possessions attached to it comprehended a vast extent, embracing the country from the foot of Pennigent to the boundaries of St. Wilfrid, of Ripon, an uninterrupted space of more than thirty miles. Besides many other wide domains, the lands in Craven contained, in a ring fence, a hundred square miles, or sixty thousand acres on a moderate computation." For a full account of the early history of Fountains Abbey and of the evidences out of which that history is drawn, we must refer our readers to the "Memoirs of Fountains Abbey," a work of great information and research, which was prepared by Mr. Walbran for the Surtees Society.

After obtaining a high reputation for sanctity and the possession of great power and immense wealth, the Monastery was surrendered by deed, enrolled 26th November, 1539, by Marmaduke Bradley, the thirty-third abbat, and Suffragan Bishop of Hull; a man who, by the character of "the wysyste monke within Inglonde of that cote, well lernede, and a welthie fellowe," was recommended to Cromwell by the visitors, Layton and Legh, to fill the office which abbat Thirsk, whom they thought "a varra fole, and a miserable ideote," had privately resigned into their hands. Bradley had then an annuity of 100*l.*, Thomas Kydde, the Prior, another of 8*l.*, and the thirty monks who were priests, allowances of a similar nature, varying in value from 6*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* to 5*l.* each; the whole amounting to 277*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*; an acknowledgment, certainly liberal, of their interest in the estates of the abbey, which in 1535 had been certified to the Commissioners to be worth 998*l.* 6*s.* 7½*d.* annually, including the tenths. These terms, however, from the changed value of money, the nature of tenures, and many other causes, have now become difficult of interpretation; and a juster idea of the nature and extent of the establishment of the Convent may be formed from the fact, that, at the time of the dissolution, they possessed 1976 head of cattle, 1106 sheep, 86 horses, and 79 swine. They had also stored in their granges at Sutton, Morker, Haddockstones, Swanley, and Brimham,



A.



B



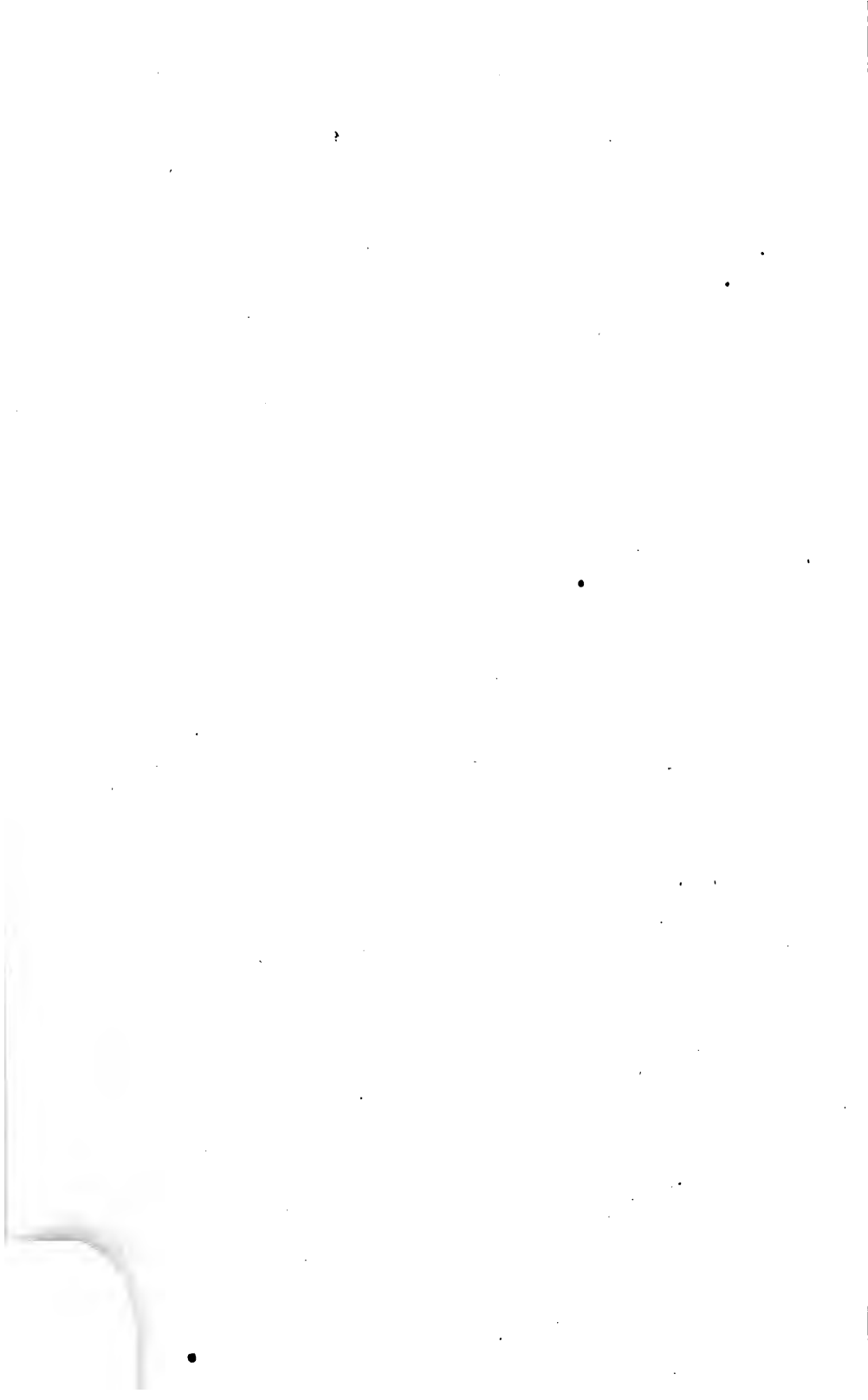
C



D

SEALS FROM THE FOUNTAINS CHARTERS.

- a. Thomas de Borton. b. Adam de Stavelai. c. William de Rednes.
d. Stephen son of Andrew.







E



F



G



H

SEALS FROM THE FOUNTAINS CHARTERS.

- e. William de Stoleld. f. Alan de Audefeld. g. Walter son of Uctred.
h. Simon de Cludrum.

117 quarters of wheat, 13 of rye, 134 of oats, and 192 loads of hay, besides the temporary provision of 160 loads of hay, and 128 quarters of corn, which they had in the park and granaries of the abbey.

Whilst the king found it politic to promise the application of the revenues of some of the abbeys to their legitimate purpose of religion and education, the revenues of "Fontayne" and of the "archdeconry off Richmond" were assigned for the endowment of a bishopric of Lancaster; but his evil genius prevailed, and on the 1st of October, 1540, he sold the site of the abbey, with its franchises, and the greater part of its estates, to Sir Richard Gresham, father of the munificent founder of the Royal Exchange.

From Gresham's representatives, who had previously alienated the extensive estates in Craven, the site of the abbey, with its privileges, some of its adjacent granges, and a considerable tract of land in Nidderdale, were sold, in 1597, to Sir Stephen Procter of Warsell, an ambitious and speculative character, who pulled down the abbat's house and the minor offices of the abbey, to obtain materials for the noble mansion which he built near the west gate. His family having been burthened, after his decease, by his pecuniary embarrassment, the property was sold by his widow, in 1623, to Sir Timothy Whitingham, from whom it passed, two years afterwards, to Humphrey Wharton, Esq., of Gillingwood. From him it was purchased, in 1627, by Richard Ewens, of South Cowton, Esq., whose daughter and heiress carried it into the family of Messenger, of Newsham, who resided at Fountains Hall until John Michael Messenger, Esq., in 1768, sold the abbey, with its franchises and a small estate, for 18,000*l.*, to William Aislabie, Esq., of Studley, maternal grandfather to Mrs. Lawrence, from whom it passed to the Earl de Grey, uncle of the present owner, the Marquess of Ripon.

Before the excavation of the abbat's house—'undertaken by the late Lord de Grey—a visitor approaching the abbey from the garden, was unable to see the greater part of the outside, before he was conducted through the interior of the building.

This inconvenience has been very judiciously obviated by the direction of the path along the kitchen-bank on the south side, where, from its elevated position, hitherto buried in brushwood and rubbish, by far the most picturesque views of the building are not only obtained, but also a bird's-eye view or synoptical idea of the plan and relative position of the apartments, before proceeding to a particular survey.

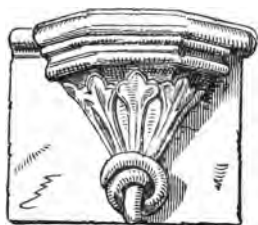
On leaving, therefore, Robin Hood's Well, and rising immediately above the recently discovered foundations of the abbat's house and the domestic offices of the abbey, we see the several parts of the conventual church, Lady chapel, choir, transept, tower, and nave, successively developed; nearer us—and parallel with the south end of the transept—the chapter house, distinguished by the double tier of round-headed windows; next, but placed in a contrary direction towards the river, comes the frater house. After that the kitchen, with its tall chimney, and the court house above. Then the refectory, with its graceful lancet lights; then, receding to the cloister court, the buttery and its little garth; and lastly, in connection with the main structure, the vast range of the dormitory above the cloisters, stretching nearly from our feet to the nave of the church. Turning in a contrary direction, we may observe, on the slope of the hill above, a part of the wall which bounded the site* of the monastery; the intermediate broken ground having been chiefly occupied by the common Stable, Guests' Stable, Barns, Kilns, Tan-house, Bark-mill, Dove-cotes, Forge, and other similar offices. Of these, the MILL—to which large granaries were formerly annexed—is alone left entire, and will be observed immediately before us,

* The walled Close of the Abbey, *which was a parish of itself*, contained above eighty acres. Of these the site of the building, with its orchard, gardens, and several adjacent garths, occupied, at the dissolution, twelve acres on the north side of the Skell; the rest, which lay on the south side, was divided into East Applegarth, in which was a fish-pond; three West Applegarths of twelve acres; and the Kitchen-bank of three acres, covered with brushwood. But besides the Close, there was on its south-west side, a pleasant park of above two hundred acres, of which the better half was covered by woods and fish-ponds. It still retains its name, and, though divided into farms, much of its ancient and picturesque character.

shrouded in tall trees, and running on merrily, as in days of yore.

On a little knoll, above the mill, stands the remnant of the Yew Trees, that are said, by tradition, to have sheltered the monks before the erection of the abbey ; which, in some measure, they may be said to have survived. Their original number is forgot. From the appellation of "The Seven Sisters," by which the trees are always known, they may not have lately exceeded that number ; though one of coeval antiquity stands at the south end of the abbey-bridge, near the mill. Dr. Burton, writing in 1757, remembered seven trees, but remarked that one of them had been blown down a few years before. One, and the greater part of another, fell in the great gale of the 7th January, 1839. Since then more have succumbed to the fury of occasional tempests ; so that three or four are, in this year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-two, prostrate on the ground, and only two standing. These vegetate with astonishing vigour, and bear their accustomed supply of berries ; though their giant stems are but mouldering skeletons.

Candolle, deriving his information from Pennant, who stated that in 1770 one of them was 1214 lignes in diameter, supposes that they were then upwards of twelve centuries old ; but as we cannot ascertain when they ceased to expand, and the process of decomposition commenced, this computation probably falls far short of their actual age. The tortuosity of their rifted boles forbids an accurate measurement, but one of them is at least 25 feet in circumference.



Bracket : Gate-house.

Immediately on crossing the Skell by a picturesque bridge, built in the thirteenth century, we come to the Gate-house, now reduced indeed to a mere fragment, but bearing, in the traces of the apartments on each side, abundant testimony of its former magnitude and importance.

At this point, however brief the time at the visitor's disposal may be, he should turn aside a few paces to FOUNTAINS HALL. It stands at a very short distance from the abbey gate, on the side of a densely wooded and precipitous declivity, and was built by Sir Stephen Procter, of Warsell, in the time of King James I., at an expense of 3000*l.*, although he ruthlessly quarried his stone from the walls of the abbey. Its venerable aspect, however, accords so well with the scenery, that it mitigates "the regret with which the antiquary would otherwise contemplate so wide a scale of spoliation." The chief front sleeping in a summer's sun, with its picturesque gables and balcony, its statues, and glistening bay windows, is peculiarly imposing and beautiful. The arrangement of the principal apartments is still undisturbed; but they contain nothing remarkable, except the dining room, which is hung with tapestry, representing the Rape of Proserpine, Jupiter and Ganymede, and Vulcan receiving directions from Thetis about making armour for Achilles. In the hall also—now called the chapel—is a sculpture over the fire-place, of the Judgment of Solomon, and in its great embayed window, the armorial bearings of the Procters and their connections, displayed in confused and fast fading glass. Over the chief entrance to the house are the crests of Sir Stephen Procter and his wife's father, and between them a motto, difficult of application, at least to Procter's secular condition: RIEN TROVANT GAINERAY TOVT. The Hall is not "shown" to visitors.

The two gabled ruins, passed soon after entering what was formerly called the first court, appear to have been the HOSPITRUM, which in the records of the abbey, is said to have been built by the abbat John de Cancia; though, either from the rule of the Order enjoining a severe character of architecture, or the inferior importance of the building, it displays none of the scientific progress that was rapidly developed in his time. In the basement story of the eastern house—73 ft. long and 23 ft. wide, and vaulted from a row of five pillars—is an apartment which may have been the dining hall of the guests; and in the upper apartments of each, a domestic character is indicated by

fire-places, with flues curiously constructed in the gables.

To the east of these buildings stands a wall containing the chief doorway, and three upper windows of a structure built above the Skell, which may have been the Infirmary, erected also by John de Cancia. The other walls are destroyed; but on a recent excavation of such parts of the floor as had not fallen into the river, it was found to have had three aisles, divided by four arches on each side.



The main fabric of the abbey now engages attention, and the West Cloister, being the nearest part of it, will perhaps, be first entered. It is not less than 300 feet in length, but was built at two different periods; the upper portion, extending from the nave of the church to the porter's lodge, being of the same transition Norman character, very curiously shown in the buttresses; the rest forms the ambulatory, or "*Novum Claustrum*," built by John de Cancia. Along the outside of the upper part, which was once divided into store-houses, has been a pent-house, communicating like the cloister, by a large and handsome doorway with the church.

Above the cloister, and extending its whole length, was the Monks' Dormitory, divided into forty cells by wooden partitions, which left a passage down the middle, lighted by a large

window at the south end, and, at night, by a great cresset or lamp. At the south-west corner are the walls of two spacious gard-robcs, communicating with the dormitory, and placed conveniently above the river. The dormitory is still approached by spacious and original stairs winding over the porter's lodge ; and by another staircase at the northern extremity, by which the monks descended to their nocturnal offices in the church.

THE CONVENTUAL CHURCH.

Before we proceed to examine the church, it will be proper to state that the whole of its floor was excavated, or cleared of rubbish, during the winter of 1854. The general result is, that, though as regards the mere discovery of relics, or speculative objects of curiosity, the work has not entirely fulfilled the anticipations of those who had eagerly entertained them ; yet many important facts, general and local, have been, both directly and inferentially elicited, and the architectural and picturesque appearance of the building has been amplified and improved to such a high degree, that, to any one who has not since visited it, any description would seem exaggerated. The accumulation of rubbish varied in depth from little more than twelve inches, in the middle of the choir, to that of three feet in the nave. The whole mass appeared to have been disturbed, probably during Mr. Aislalie's "improvements," in the last century ; so that, unfortunately, whatever fragmentary objects were found among it, could not be generally assigned to their original positions. There needed not, indeed, such an intrusion to disturb the last vestiges of evidence that might have been left ; for the work had not proceeded far, before it became evident that, on the dissolution of the house, its spoliation had been conducted with no ordinary wantonness or avarice. The stalls, screens, and other wooden fittings, had, apparently, been used, as we *know* was the case at Roche abbey, to make fires for melting the lead of the roofs ; for, here and there were found, within the walls, heaps of ashes—nay, in the nave, part of the

furnace where the operation had been conducted. All the glass had been removed from the windows, so that not more than a handful has been found. The large slabs had been torn from the graves and removed; nearly the whole of the tiled floor had been taken up; even the very graves had been ransacked in search of valuables, if we may judge from the condition of those that were accidentally observed, and the indiscriminate mingling of bones with the rubbish.

It will astonish those who have viewed the familiar face of the west end of the nave in a picturesque rather than in an architectural point of view, to find that throughout its whole façade, and at a period not very long after its erection, a porch or "Galilee," with a double open arcade in front, and of the width of fifteen feet, has been added, probably by abbat Robert de Pipewell, and also repaired in the succeeding century. It seems, like similar porches elsewhere, to have been preferred as a place of burial; since there were found within it six graves covered by large ornamented slabs. Of the four to be seen, at the south end, nothing is to be particularly observed, except the mode in which the graves are united; but, in the opposite extremity, is a remarkably fine and perfect slab—still fixed by heavy leaden clamps to the coffin—which bears the device of a processional cross of the latter half of the twelfth century.

There was found, also, within this unexpected appendage to the church, a large image of the Blessed Virgin, "with her Almighty infant in her arms," that had been thrown down from the niche that it occupied above the great western window. Both figures are headless, and there is little in the composition to attract admiration. The late Lord de Grey restored this mutilated figure to its ancient niche, 27th of June, 1859.

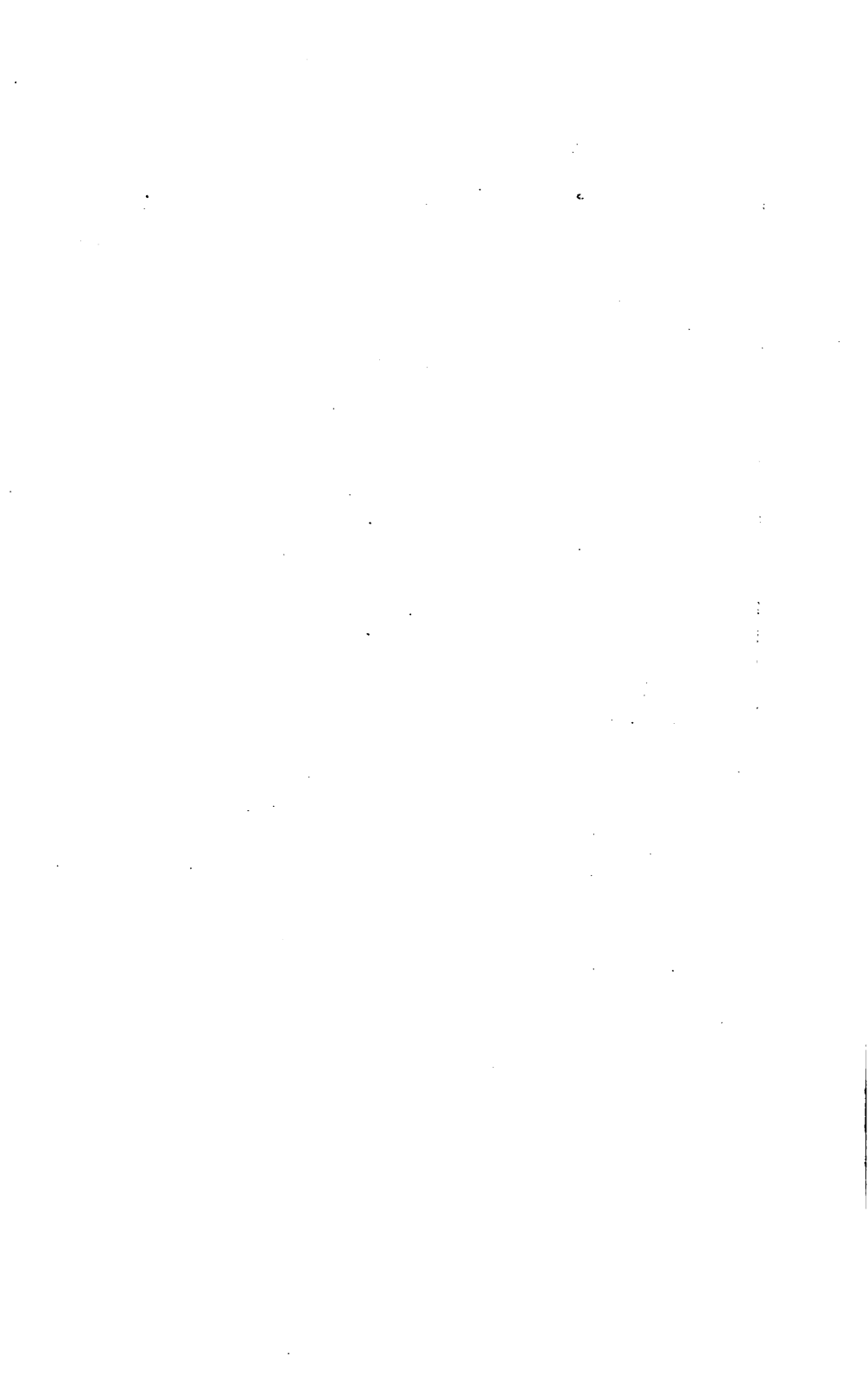
THE NAVE.

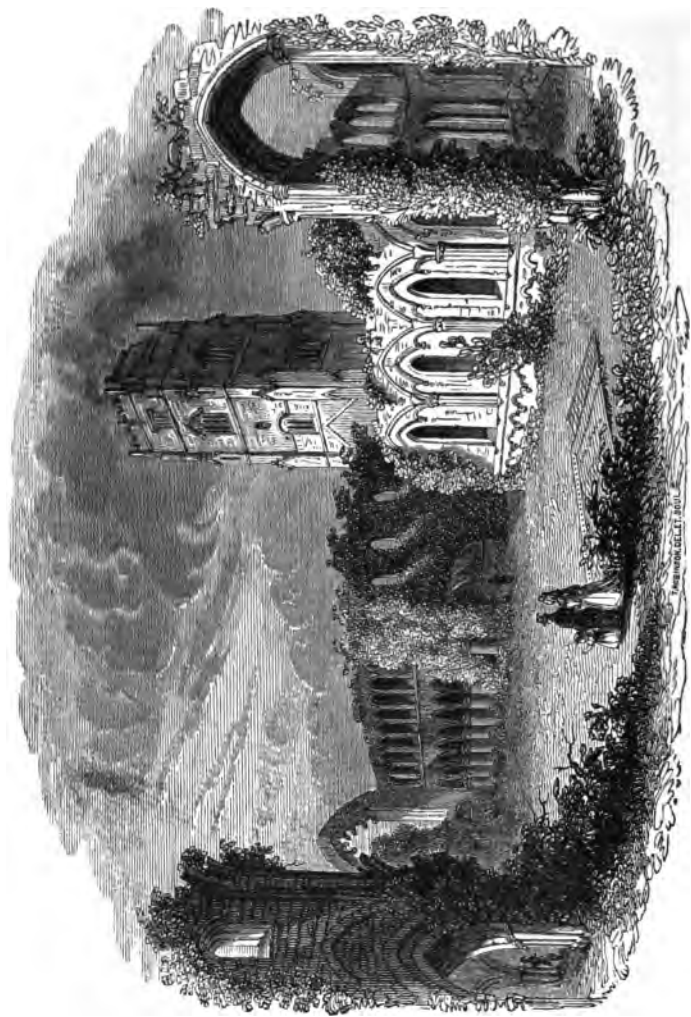
The nave—a good plain example of the Transition Norman period—exhibits only, on each side, both of the clerestory and the aisles, a succession of eleven bays, divided by broad and

shallow pilasters, and occupied by as many round-headed lights without shaft or moulding. On entering at the great western door, the effect is exceedingly solemn and impressive: the pointed arcade, resting on massive columns 23 feet high and 16 feet in circumference, without the relief of a triforium intervening between them and the plain splayed windows above. The great west window was introduced by abbat Darnton, in the place of two or three plain Norman lights, surmounted probably by a round one in the gable; and has a gallery in the base, whence processions might be viewed. Above, on the outside of this window is the niche occupied by the headless figure of the Virgin before described. This niche is supported by the figure of an eagle, holding a crozier, and perched on a tun, from which issues a label inscribed "DERN 1494." The eagle is the symbol of St. John, and is meant to signify the Christian name of Darnton.

Each bay of the aisles has been covered by a pointed but *transverse* vault, divided by semi-circular arches, of which the imposts are placed considerably lower than those of the pillars to which they are attached. Nearly the whole of the eastern half of these aisles has been divided by lattices into chapels, of which there are some indications in the painted devices and matrices of their furniture, traceable on the piers. There has been, also, a wooden screen across the nave at the seventh pillar eastward.

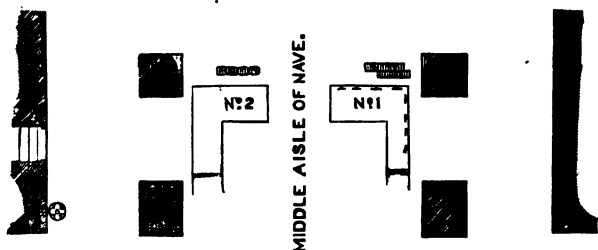
Shortly after its very fragmentary foundation was cleared, an arrangement was discovered, on the transept side of it, not more unusual than inexplicable; for, on each side of its processional passage are to be seen two walled spaces of the form of the Roman capital letter L, and of the size represented on the plan (Nos. 1 and 2) depressed about two feet below the level of the floor. In that on the south side nothing was then discovered, but, in the other, a mass of charcoal ashes; and thoroughly imbedded in its west and north sides, nine large vases of rude earthenware, each capable of containing nearly two fluid gallons, and also partially filled with charcoal. These ashes have, no doubt, been cast here from the adjacent furnace,





FOUNTAINS ABBEY : CHOIR AND NAVE LOOKING WEST. (AFTER BUCKLER).

where the lead stripped from the church had been evidently melted into a marketable shape at the time of the dissolution; but, why the vases should have been introduced, is, so far as I can learn from anything that has been observed in English architecture, unaccountable. The most probable supposition seems to be that they were *acoustic instruments*, intended to increase the sound of an organ placed on the screen above; inasmuch as Vitruvius, when speaking of "the vases of the theatres," in the fifth chapter of his fifth book on architecture, observes, that it was the practice in constructing some of the provincial theatres of Italy, to insert earthen vessels within the seats, where brass vases could not be afforded, for the express purpose of augmenting sound.*



Besides these vases, and the bases of three altars attached to the pillars, no particular objects of interest were observed in the nave; except that towards the west end, two blocks of limestone, each two feet three inches square, with a circle incised

* This conjecture, which seems to be the correct one, has been elaborated and still further verified by Mr. Fowler, in a paper read at Fountains abbey, in August, 1872, from which these facts may be summarized.

Indubitable evidence is now collected to shew, that both in England and on the Continent, earthenware pots were built into the walls of monasteries and churches with the intention of improving the sound. In 1842 a number of horn-shaped vessels were found in the church of S. Blaize, at Arles, and caused much discussion in France. In 1861, M. Mandelgren, a Swedish antiquary, reported that he had found a great number of churches in Norway and Sweden fitted up with earthen jars whose mouths opened into the church or vault in which they were placed. In the same year M. Stasof, a Russian archæologist, stated that these pots and jars were common in Byzantine churches. In 1862 M. Bouteiller, of Metz, published his memoir of the Celestine monastery there. Amongst other extracts from that chronicle, there is one giving a positive account

on the surface, were found inserted in the floor; which led to a more particular examination—ending in the discovery of *fifty* of similar character, occupying the space, and arranged in the form expressed on the plan. They marked the positions observed by members of the convent, before they moved in procession, on high days, to meet their patrons or benefactors—the cross-bearer standing first; and the abbat, in front of the entrance, last. The faces of the greater number of the stones were, however, so much crumbled and decayed that, with the exception of those which occasioned the disclosure of the rest, it was thought expedient to allow the turf to remain above them.

THE TRANSEPT.

The transept was built in the same transitional period of architecture as the nave, but manifests so little of a progressive or

of the placing of a series of pots in 1432, of which the following is a translation:—
 “In the year aforesaid, in the month of August, on the vigil of the assumption of our lady, after that brother Odo le Roy, our prior, had returned from the general chapter above named, he made and ordered to put pots into the choir of the church, declaring that he had seen (this done) elsewhere in some church, and thinking that it would make the singing better, and that it would resound the stronger. And these were fixed in one day by as many workmen as sufficed. But I do not know that they sing any better than they did. And it is certain that the walls were greatly torn to pieces and shaken; and many who come to us are very much astonished at what is done there. And they have sometimes said that it would be better if they were now outside, declaring that they verily thought the pots had been put there to catch and take in fools.”
 Examples are also found in Normandy. A satirical work of the seventeenth century, published at Rouen, states that, “Of the fifty choristers that the public maintain in such a house, there will not sometimes be more than six present at the office; the choirs are fitted with pots in a vault, and in the walls, so that half a dozen voices there make as much noise as forty elsewhere.” Further research has brought to light specimens in various English churches. Of these, S. Peter’s, Norwich, and S. Peter’s, Upton, may be cited as examples where the vessels occur *in situ*. In Ireland acoustic pottery is also found.

The conclusion seems natural and plain that they were *not* “for stores of some kind;” nor “for doves;” nor “for holding relics;” nor “to burn incense in;” nor “for warming the hands of officials;” nor for “cinerary urns;” nor “to receive the ashes of the heart;” as was at first by some conjectured, but really an attempt to improve the effect of the services of the church—in short, an experiment which was abandoned in consequence of its unsatisfactory result.

pointed character, that it might have been considered, particularly outside, as pure Norman. At its intersection with the nave was originally a tower, though elevated probably not more than one of its squares above the roof. All trace of it, however, is now lost, except fragments of its arches, which have been pointed and moulded, at the south-east and north-west angles. It was probably the insecure condition of this tower—incapable of such considerable improvement as, unfortunately, was effected at Kirkstall—which led to the erection of the present magnificent substitute; since abbat Huby was obliged to disfigure the transept by the erection of a massive buttress against its south-east pier, and also to construct an arch under that of the adjacent aisle of the choir. The corbels of its hood mouldings display on shields, three horse shoes—the arms of the abbey—and his initials, M. H., surmounted by a mitre enfiled by a crosier.

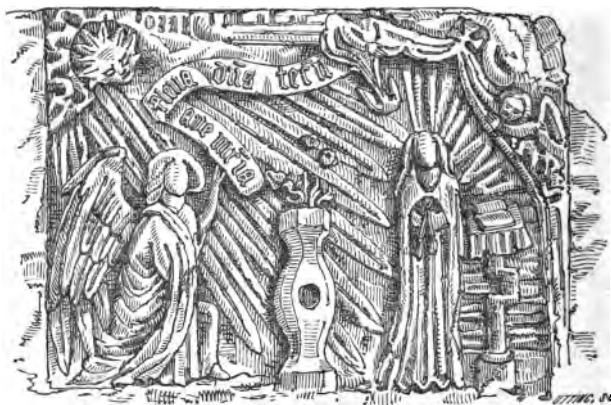
Two melancholy chapels, divided by a thick wall and covered with a barrel, but pointed, vault, abut on the east side of each wing of the transept, and occupy a space, which, if we may judge from the like arrangement at Kirkstall, would not have been transformed into the less monastic form of aisles, even at a more advanced architectural period. Their gloomy character has also been increased, at the north end, by walling up the arches of the transept in order to give increased stability to the new tower. In the chapel that adjoins it—dedicated, it appears from a mouldering inscription, to St. Peter—there was placed within recollection, under a broken monumental arch in the north wall, the effigy of a cross-legged warrior in chain-mail, bearing a shield, charged with a lion rampant, and said by tradition to represent the great baron Roger de Mowbray, who died at Ghent in 1298, and was buried in this church. This effigy was removed into the abbey museum, over the great kitchen, on Monday, August 16th, 1858.

The dedication of the next chapel is shewn to have been to St. Michael the Archangel, by a weather-beaten inscription over its entrance: ALTARE S'CI MICHAELIS ARCH'. In its south wall—part of the original or first choir—is a large round-

headed piscina, with a recess or locker in the side ; and, at the east end, some fragments of the stone altar and of a geometrical pavement may be observed.

The south chapels have been partitioned, by lattices, from the transept ; and that adjoining the choir has gained an entrance also from its aisle, in the perpendicular period, when it was also briefly elongated and improved by the insertion of a large east window. The piscina has been of wood.

The next and last chapel has been but recently cleared of the rubbish of its vault, which was re-set with most rigid attention to the original work. Sufficient indications of the tessellated pavement were found, during the excavation, to shew that it had been of John de Cancia's time, as indeed may be inferred from the fragments of the border attached to the wall ; if such are still allowed to remain. Within the mutilated piscina



THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE VIRGIN.

—large and round-headed like that in the north chapel—there was placed some years ago a large sculptured tablet, representing the Annunciation of the Virgin. It is rude and late in style, but the conventional expression is worthy of observation. The inscription is the salutation of Gabriel, AVE MARIA [GR'A] PLENA D'N'S TECU'. It is now amongst the relics in the abbey museum.

Near the entrance of this chapel is, also, placed part of the monumental slab of one of the abbats. In its present inconvenient position, it is difficult to decipher the worn and mutilated circumscription; but from the occurrence of the word ROBERTUS, in the place where the name of the abbat might be expected, and the character of the design, I presume, it has commemorated Robert Burley, the twenty-fourth abbat, who died on the 13th of May, 1410.

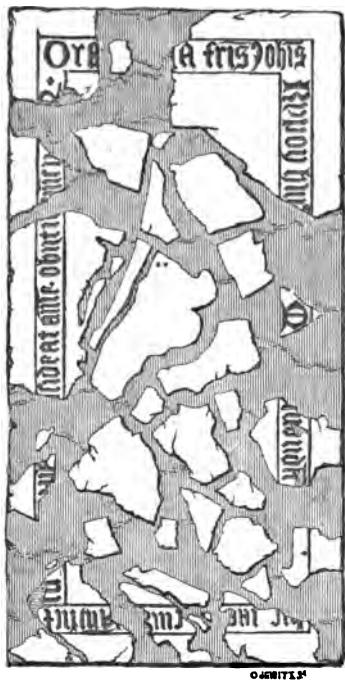


TOMBSTONE OF ABBAT BURLEY.

The MS. chronicle of the abbats of the house induced me, when the floor was cleared, to hope for some curious memorials of them in the transept. With the exception, however, of two slabs, the floor presented only a hopeless blank. One of these slabs will be found at the angle of the transept joining the north aisle of the nave, but it is uninscribed. Its position, receding so humbly from the east, is somewhat singular, and if it really *can* be shown that abbat Thirsk was interred at Fountains, after his execution at Tyburn, fancy may suggest to some that he rests below.

The other slab is in the south wing, but the broken circumscription tell us nothing more than that it thus records "Brother John de Ripon : "

ORA[TE PRO A] I'A FR'IS JOH'IS RYPON HUI'.....@.....
QUONDA'.....HIC IACET - CUI' A'I'AM LIC X...[PO]SSIDEAT
AME' · OBIJT II....M'CIJ....4.



TOMBSTONE OF JOHN DE RIPON.

From the character of the letter, he seems, however, to have been an inmate of the house long after the time of *abbat* Ripon. His grave had been ransacked, the bones being found in a disturbed position, as they were also in another grave on the north-east side of it.

At the south end of the transept, and below the sacristy, has been originally a passage from the cloister court to the burial garth, south of the choir; the extremities of which had been closed not long before the Dissolution. In clearing it out, a mass of human bones, representing about four hundred skeletons, was found in comparatively modern rubbish. They were

in a rapid state of decomposition; and were committed for the last time to their kindred dust, on the day when they were found, to a grave prepared for "this little city of the forgotten," at the west end of the church, opposite to the entrance of the dormitory.

Abutting on the west side of the south wing of the transept is to be seen the foundation of a staircase leading to the sacristy, which occupies the space above this passage. In it is a fine round-headed lavatory of the transitional Norman period. Near

the foot of the staircase—but in the nave—is the base of an Early English stoup, whose very elegant basin is now in the abbey museum—it having for many years served for the font in the adjacent chapel of Aldfield.

THE TOWER.

This majestic and scientific specimen of the perpendicular style is placed at the end of the north transept, since its introduction could not have been conveniently effected on the site of the old tower; and, at the west end of the nave, it would not have grouped so effectively with the chief buildings of the monastery. It is composed in a grand and bold outline, unfretted by minute detail, or elaborate decoration. The height is 168 feet 6 inches, and the internal area of the base about 25 feet. With the exception of the floors of the several chambers, pinnacles, glass, and the tracery of a single window, which fell out many years ago, the goodly structure remains as perfect, sound, and stable, as when the builders left it; and, for anything that appears to the contrary, will rear its noble head above the dell, and defy the storm, when many proud structures of to-day shall have crumbled to their bases. On fillets above and below the belfry windows are inscriptions in the Tudor black letter, boldly relieved, and also round the top of the tower; but this latter series is so weather-beaten as to be illegible.

On the east side.—BENEDICCIO ET CARITAS ET SAPIENCIA
[1] ET [2] GRACIARUM ACCIO HONOR.

SOLI DEO I'HU X'PO [3] HONOR [4] ET GL'IA IN S'CLA S'CLOR.

North side.—ET VIRTUS ET FORTITUDO DEO NOSTRO [5] IN
[6] SECLA SECULORUM AMEN.

SOLI DEO I'HU X'PO HONOR ET GL'IA IN S'CLA S'CLOR AME'.

West side.—REGI AUTEM SECULORUM [7 8] IMMORTALI
INVISILI.

SOLI DEO I'HU X'PO HONOR ET [9] GL'IA [10] IN S'CLA
S'CLOR.

South side.—SOLI DEO HONOR ET GLORIA [11] IN [12] SECLA
SECULORUM AMEN.

The numerals introduced into this copy indicate the corresponding position of armorial shields in the inscriptions, thus charged :—1, Three horse shoes, two and one, the arms of the abbey ; 2, a maunch, surmounted by a bend, Norton of Norton Conyers, and Sawley ; 3, a cross flory, between a mitre and key erect, in chief, and a key erect and mitre, in base ; 4, the arms of the abbey, as the first ; 5 and 6, Norton, as before ; 7 and 8, the abbey and Norton ; 9, as the third ; 10 and 11, the abbey ; 12, Norton ; and individually, perhaps, Sir John Norton, grandfather to old Richard, the memorable promoter of the " Rising in the North."

Above the lowest window is an angel standing on the canopy of a vacant niche, holding a shield, on which is carved a mitre enfiled with a crosier, and the letters M.H., the initials of Marmaduke Huby. In a niche on the north side is a crowned female figure holding a palm-branch in her right, and a book in her left hand ; in another above is a mitred figure, probably archbishop Savage, holding a crosier ; and in one above the ridge of the transept roof, a gowned effigy, no doubt of his friend Huby, holding a crosier in his right, and a book in his left hand.

During the excavation of 1854-5, when the whole of the exterior of the north side of the church was cleared, it was discovered, from a wall a little in advance of the east side of the tower, that an addition had been made in the decorated period, to the end of the north transept. The building has been at least 19 feet wide, with a doorway to the east ; and has had a vaulted roof, of which two of the springers remain a few inches only above the level of the floor.

THE CHOIR.

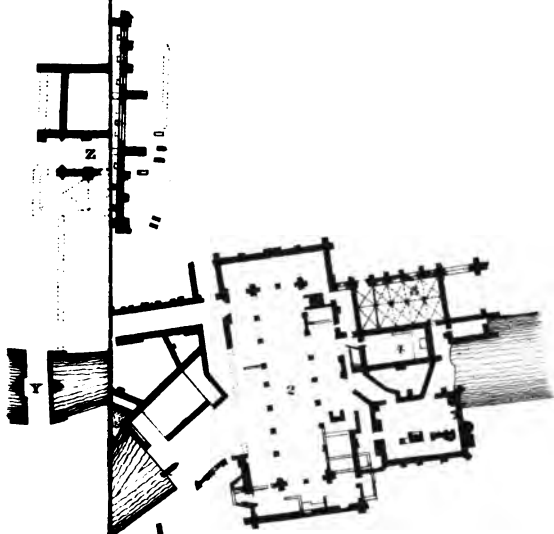
The present choir was begun in the early part of the 13th century, by John de Eboraco, the eighth abbat. It took the place of the Norman choir, which was smaller and less conspicuous. The outer walls of the aisles of the present structure are of elegant and powerful design. Each bay contains, indeed,

THE ABBEY

- A. The Nave of the Convent
- B. The Crossing.
- C. N. and S. Transepts.
- D. The Tower.
- E. Transeptal Chapels.
- F. The Choir.
- G. Lady Chapel.
- H. Cloister Court.
- I. Penitential Cell.
- J. Sacristy.
- K. Chapter House.
- L. Passage.
- M. Passage.
- N. Fraternity.
- O. Closet.
- P. Staircase.
- Q. Kitchen and
- R. its Appurtenances.
- S. Refectory.
- T. Battery.
- U. Domus Conversorum.
- V. Gardrobes.
- W. Infirmary.
- X. Buildings, the destination is uncertain.
- Y. Mill Bridge.
- Z. Gate House

THE ABBOT'S BUILDINGS

- 1. Passage from the Cloister Court.
- 2. The Great Hall.
- 3. Abbot's Kitchen; & Residence above
- 4. Abbot's Chapel.
- 5. Prisons.



Scale of Feet





only one plain lancet light, but as it is placed in the interior, under an arcade of one pointed, between two round-headed members, a remarkable effect is produced by the archivolt of its adjuncts ; which, resting one extremity on the single columns flanking the light ; descend on the opposite side, with the curve of the groining, to a shaft, capped at an inferior elevation, and clustered with that which has carried the ribs of the vault. A very appropriate and picturesque effect is contributed also by the deeply recessed and trifoliated arcade which supports this arrangement, though it is now much diminished by the absence of its grey marble shafts.

The excavation of the choir developed little or nothing that had not previously been ascertained. Its floor, raised two steps above the aisles, had been totally removed, together with all its sepulchral slabs. The pillars supporting the clerestory had been, with the exception of two fragmentary bases, not only torn down to the ground, but to the very foundations ; and in Mr. Aislable's "improvements," in the last century, the rubbish had been so much disturbed that little of the detail of the superstructure could be satisfactorily inferred. It must be observed, however, that the foundation of the original aisleless choir, like that of Kirkstall, was discovered immediately below the level of the floor, as it was left upwards of six hundred and fifty years ago by John de Eboraco, the builder of the present structure, together with those of the two side chapels which he included in his work. The inner and outer surfaces of the wall are now indicated on the turf by corresponding lines of thin flag-stones, and also shewn on the ground plan.

When the work reached the west end of the choir, it was found that the screen had been torn down to the ground. It had been of limestone, and no doubt the work of abbat Huby, when he fortified the eastern side of the old central tower, as an ornamental combination of the emblems of office, and his initials are preserved on a detached slab, now in the museum, which has probably had some connection with this screen. Of its general outline no idea can be formed, as very few fragments were found that could reasonably be supposed to have

formed a portion of it. Within its porch was re-discovered that magnificent sepulchral slab of blue marble—9 feet 6 inches long, and 4 feet 8 inches wide, and 7 inches thick—the disturbance of which in 1841 caused the cessation of the excavation



TOMBSTONE OF ABBAT RIPON.

commenced by Mrs. Lawrence.

The design represented in graven brass, as will readily be observed, the figure of a mitred abbat, under a canopy, holding his pastoral staff in his right hand ; and, no doubt, covered the abbat John de Ripon, who died at the abbey grange of Thorpe Underwood, on the 12th of March, 1434, and is said, in a record of the monastery, to have been buried before the entrance to the choir. The label around, of which the circular corner pieces had, perhaps, symbolical figures of the Evangelists, contained the inscription. There is, of course, no trace of the brass, but the rivets by which the plates were fixed to the grooved stone still remain, with the incised passages to them

by which the solder was introduced.

The tessellated pavement of the high altar is doubtless part of the "*pictum pavementum*" that was bestowed on the church by abbat John de Cancia between the years 1219 and 1247 ; and, therefore, an early and valuable example of this elegant mode of decoration. The simple patterns, divided in the upper and chief platform into three chief compartments, are formed of many-shaped tesserae of red, black, and yellow, which have been recently relaid, with proper attention to the original design.

The reredos behind the high altar presented, both to the choir and lady chapel, a continuation—prolonged also for one bay or more on each side—of that beautiful arcade which circum-

scribes the lady chapel and the choir; yet, part of its materials are now in a modern and obtrusive gallery under the east window, and more of it will be found in other parts of the abbey.

Not far from the north-west corner of the altar is a stone coffin, 6 feet 3 inches long, which is usually said to have contained the remains of Henry, Lord Percy, of Alnwick, who died in 1315. As, however, the herald Tong, who learned on his visit to the abbey, in 1530, that he was buried "before the high auter," observed that "also in the quere lyeth buried the Lord Mowbray," it is as probable that the coffin was covered by the effigy of Mowbray, now in the abbey museum; more particularly as it is remembered to have stood against the wall opposite to it.

THE LADY CHAPEL, OR NINE ALTARS.

This most beautiful portion of the abbey church was completed by abbat John de Cancia, who had superintended, probably the greater part, if not the whole, of its erection. "This addition to ecclesiastical structures, though not common, is productive of great magnificence, for the eastern façade thus formed here extends 150 feet in length, and presents a specimen of Early English architecture—plain and somewhat massive in its general appearance, but with many well proportioned details. Some additions which have been made to this portion of the abbey are, however, as late as the end of the fifteenth century. The great east window and appurtenant buttresses display the magnificence of the latest style of Gothic architecture, which, guided by judgment and taste, are combined with the earlier style of the adjoining portions of the building." It had nine lights and a transom, but exhibits now a void space of 60 feet in height, and 23 feet 4 inches in width. The other and *original* windows of this front are adorned, outside and in the lower range, with banded shafts, and divided by semi-octangular and massive buttresses.

Besides the east window, one of large dimensions but plain detail has been inserted, at the same period, in each gable of the

lady chapel, in the place of the original wheel windows. Below that in the southern elevation, the keystone of one of the three Early English lights has received a sculpture which shows these innovations to have been made in the time of abbat Darnton, who presided over the house from 1478 to 1494. It is, indeed, a rebus on his name; displaying the bust of an angel holding a tun, with the word DERN inscribed on its breast. Above this is a large bird, apparently an eagle—as seen before above the nave—and a scroll which bears the same allusive character in its legend, B'N'D' FONTES D'NO (*Benedicite fontes domino*). In the inside of the chapel, the same keystone bears an angel holding a blank shield, a mitred head, and the figure of St. James of Compostella, standing on two encircled fishes. The keystone of another lancet light, at the north-east angle, displays a human head entwined with foliage; and in the interior, the figure of an angel, holding a scroll, inscribed ANNO DOMINI 1483.

On receding to either end of the lady chapel, the amplitude of its dimensions, the graceful, aspiring, heavenward tendency of its component parts must captivate and astonish even a vulgar or careless mind. Not a little of its peculiar effect results from those lofty arches which span it in prolongation of the clerestory of the choir, sustained only by an octagonal pillar, 2 feet 5 inches in diameter. But much of the original effect is lost by the destruction of the marble shafts that enriched the angles, and were banded midway in the elevation.

In this chapel, nine altars were instituted by John de Cancia, but none of their particular dedications have, as yet, been ascertained. During the excavation, portions of six of these altars were discovered; but, with the exception of two, much broken down, and all without their covering slabs. The piscinæ of two that were inserted in the floor, will be found in the museum above the abbey kitchen; and, on the walls, several indications of such as have been of wood; and one, nearly perfect, and a curious example in stone. The pavement of the chapel had been entirely removed, with the exception of some plain inserted Tudor work near the outer doors. If an opinion can be based

on the very trifling scraps of stained glass that were found here, some or all of the windows had retained a portion of their original decoration to the last. Of the immense quantity that had filled the great east window, it is strange to say that not one particle was observed. As, however, at the time of the Reformation, even plain glass was so costly, that it was generally placed in wooden frames, and removed from the windows of domestic buildings when the apartments were not in use or occupation, and this window had not then been erected fifty years, it is very probable that this, and the rest of the glass that was marketable, was at once removed and sold.

THE CLOISTER COURT.

From a door at the south-east angle of the nave, a few steps descend to a quadrangular court, formerly environed with a pent-house or cloister, of which a portion of the round-headed arcade remained in the last century. Part of the foundation wall has recently been discovered, and also a base of masonry in the centre of the quadrangle, that now *again* supports the lavatory, which, previous to June, 1859, was in the cloister. This lavatory there is good reason to suppose, was removed from this, its original position, by Mr. Messenger, who used it as a crab or cider mill.

The north and west aisles of this court were occupied, I believe, by the carols where the monks studied, and the place where the novices were taught: the others must, necessarily, have been used as passages.

The area of the court—about 128 feet square—is still surrounded by the buildings of the monastery. The north side is formed by the lofty walls of the church. On the west, the cloisters, surmounted by the dormitory, stretch in one unbroken line. The buttery, refectory, and kitchen flank the southern range; and on the east, the portals of the chapter-house join the south transept, which still, by its massive strength, retains its original elevation.

In front of the chapter-house several graves were discovered in the winter of 1856. The bottom of a wooden coffin was

also found, and a few sepulchral slabs much broken ; but none were inscribed except the shattered fragments of one which has borne a circumscription in raised letters, which date about the middle of the fifteenth century.

THE CHAPTER HOUSE.

The chapter house, divided by the sacristy from the north transept, is of a date between it and the Early English choir, but bears no local assimilation of style to any contemporary building of the abbey. It is, indeed, I apprehend, judging from certain peculiarities of style and the magnificence of its dimensions, the work of Richard, the fourth abbat, who had been previously prior of Clarevaux, in France, and may have brought or procured the design from that great head of the Cistercian houses. In size it is little inferior to any rectangular chapter house in this kingdom, being 84 feet 7 inches long, by 41 feet wide ; though a vestibule of inferior height, formed by the intervention of a wooden screen, has occupied 24 feet of the western extremity. The ten round marble columns that divided the area into three aisles, have been ruined to their bases ; but the triple tier of benches, used by the convent in their deliberations, still remain.

From the decease of abbat Richard, in 1170, to that of Copgrove in 1345, the chapter-house was the invariable burial place of the abbats, except of John the ninth abbat and Eston, who died elsewhere ; and, during that period, nineteen of them were interred here. These facts, partially communicated by Dr. Burton, in his "Monasticon," from a president-book of the abbey, led, in 1790, to the excavation of the apartment, when the following evidence of their particular graves was obtained.

Within the last bay eastward are four coffins, laid side by side, that most probably have contained the remains of abbat Richard Fastolph and his three immediate successors. Two of them have lost their proper slabs ; the cover of another is uninscribed ; and that of the last indicates only in the sacred emblem ✠ incised on its head, that it covers one who preferred the expression of his dying faith to the remembrance or gratitude of posterity.

At their feet, and immediately below the seat where he so long and worthily presided, is this memorial of the great abbat, John de Cancia, who died November 25th, 1247, inscribed in Longobardic characters, on a ridged slab of grey marble:—

H^I REQIESCIT : DOMPNVS · JOH's · X : ABBAS · DE FONTIBV.
QVJ · OBIJT · VII KL · DECEMBRIS.

Close by its south side is a slab of similar character, but somewhat humbler dimensions, on which the following inscription is said to have appeared on its discovery; though in consequence of the heedless steps of visitors, such parts of it only as are inclosed by brackets can now be deciphered:—

[✠ HI]. REQ[ESCIT DOMPNVS]
JOH's X[II ABBAS DE FONTIB' QI :
OBIJT]

This reading was, however, certainly erroneous; since, according to the enumeration used on the adjacent stone, supported by the records of the abbey, William Allerton was the twelfth abbat—and imperfect also, by the supplementary words “qui obiit,” still visible. A recent minute examination *has* proved that it commemorates the said abbat Allerton.

A plain ridged gravestone on the south of the last, covers, I apprehend, John de Ebor, the eighth abbat, who died June 14th, 1211.

On four detached fragments, which have formed part of the tomb of the thirteenth abbat, who died April 30th, 1259, are the words,

ADAM · XIII · ABBAS.



TOMBSTONE OF JOHN DE CANCIA.

Near the middle of the room is a flat stone, from which, though now much shattered, has been rescued the following fragment—

.....IES.....SREG.....S.....TES.....OCTO

a portion, perhaps, of the memorial of Reginald, the fifteenth abbat, who died October 27th, 1274.

Beside this, is a small marble slab, which, though much broken, retains the matrix of a figure that has held a crosier, and of a circumscription with corner pieces.

On the opposite side of the aisle is a stone that has had a similar design; but so worn that the head of the crosier can only be distinctly traced. Here is also a fragment of another memorial of the same date, and part of a plain ridged stone of the thirteenth century.

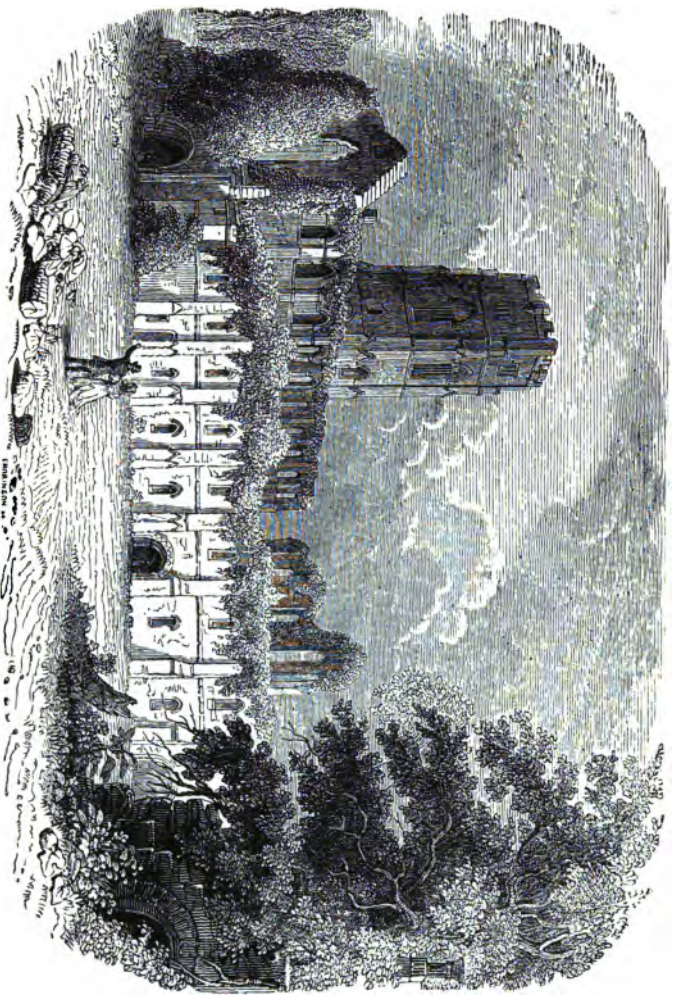
The slab near the entrance may be placed over abbat Otley, who died 24th Dec., 1290; though he is said, more particularly, to have been buried "in hostio caⁱ de Fontibus."

Above the chapter-house, were the Library and Scriptorium, with other apartments, the extent of which is indicated on the outside of the south transept, which they joined, and from which they were approached.

The notes of Leland, who saw the Library just before the Dissolution, do not suggest the idea that it was of that importance that was demanded, at least by the wealth and high position of the house.* Several of its members in the first century after its foundation were learned men, and authors of considerable reputation; † but in after days, though several of the abbats were possessed of high intellectual attainments, the general literary character of the house was insufficiently maintained. The sketches engraved on the following page, selected at random from a book written in this Scriptorium, may shew, however, that it was occasionally tenanted by men not wholly deficient in sarcastic and graphic power of expression. The middle figure is that of a knight who had a law-suit with the convent.

* Collectanea, vol. iii. pp. 44, 45.

† See Leland de Script., vol. i, pp. 232, 235, 245. Pitseus de Rebus Angl. vol. i, pp. 216-217. Bale, Script. Illust., c. ii, p. 198.



FOUNTAINS ABBEY FROM THE SOUTH-WEST. (AFTER BUCKLER).



South of the chapter house is a groined passage, of the same date, leading to the base court, and the alley or cloister communicating with the abbat's house.

Next and last, in the eastern range of the cloister, and entered by a doorway which still bears traces of painted enrichments on its Early English mouldings, is the FRATER HOUSE, a fine vaulted apartment of transition Norman work, 104 feet long,



SPECIMENS OF PEN AND INK SKETCHES BY THE MONKS.

and 29 feet wide. From the upper end, which extends to the river is a communication on the east side with the Cellar, of the ample dimensions of 59 ft. by 18 ft., beyond which was the Brewhouse, 30 ft. by 18 ft. Before the walls of these buildings were pulled down to the present level, about eighty years ago, Dr. Burton's plan indicates what, apparently, was the site of

the great boiler in the massive partition wall ; and on its recent excavation, the ruined surface bore marks of subjection to intense heat. For the advantages of drainage and refrigeration, one side of these places was built on arches above the river, which, ultimately seems to have endangered the stability of the eastern end.*

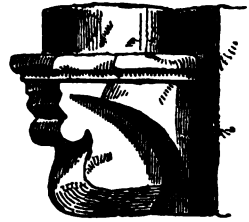
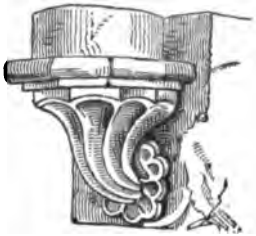
From the south-east angle of the cloister court, a spacious staircase, recently cleared out and repaired, leads to the court house, or, as it is called in the records of the abbey, "THE HALL OF PLEAS,"—an interesting apartment $42\frac{1}{2}$ by $22\frac{1}{2}$ feet, groined to a central pillar without base or capital. The court of the Liberty† of Fountains—a large and privileged district—was held here until a period within recollection, when, in compliance with modern habits and associations, it was transferred to Fountains Hall. The compartment at the upper end, where the seneschal and his officers sat, is shewn by the grooves of the cancelli or bars by which they were enclosed, in the central pillar.

The apartment over the court house, now nearly ruined, may have been the place where the records and muniments of the abbey were deposited, if the room above the gatehouse was not appropriated to that purpose.

The accumulation of relics that had been discovered during the progress of the excavation since 1848, having become so numerous that they could not be conveniently viewed by visitors, the court house was fitted up for their reception in 1855.

*Under the arch at the eastern extremity of this water-course, was found during the recent excavation, a hoard of silver money, consisting of 354 pieces, generally in excellent preservation, ranging in date from the reign of Philip and Mary to that of Charles the First; a few clipped pieces being Spanish coin. They were laid, at the depth only of a foot, on a piece of slate, and were doubtless committed to this particular place by an inhabitant of the adjacent country who had been slain suddenly during the Great Rebellion; for it was easy to be identified by any one who shared the secret.

† Within the recollection of an aged person not long since deceased, a week often elapsed before the dispersion of the Jurors at the Liberty Court held in the abbey at Fountains. Men met each other there by appointment, as at a market or fair, and how they occupied themselves may easily be conjectured.—*Memorials of Fountains Abbey*, vol. i., p. 405.



**CAPITALS, BRACKETS, &c., FOUND DURING THE
EXCAVATION.**

They have not, as yet, been arranged in classified order, but the following objects will be easily identified:—

LIST OF RELICS IN THE COURT ROOM.

Initials of Marmaduke Huby (original and plaster cast) formed of winged serpents and a stately-looking raven. Retrieved from an adjacent cottage in 1854.

The coronation of the Blessed Virgin. The Nativity of Christ, and the Assumption of the Virgin; carved on alabaster tablets found in the abbey. Of the two first there are also plaster casts.

Figures of two Evangelists in panels—one of them St. Luke. (Originals and casts.) Taken from a wall adjoining the kitchen gardens, Studley Park.

Cast of a "Perpendicular" niche and canopy, from the east side of the great tower. On the canopy stands the figure of an angel holding the arms of the abbey—three horse shoes.

Cast of an Early English groining-springer, from the gate-house of the abbey. (See engraving, p. 101.)

Broken figures (original and cast) of the Virgin and Child, found in front of the west door of the nave. (see p. 105.)

Cast of a crowned female Martyr-saint from the north side of the tower.

The marble basin used until 1859 as the font in Aldfield chapel; formerly the holy water stoop that stood near the door leading from the cloister court to the south aisle of the nave. (See p. 113.)

Figure of a chained dragon found in the chapel of the abbat's house.

A beautiful sitting figure of our Saviour exposing the wound in his side. It is cut in limestone, and was found in the choir.

A large sculptured and rude representation of the ANNUNCIATION OF THE VIRGIN. The inscription, in black letter, is the salutation of Gabriel, AVE M'RIA [GRACIA] PLENA D'N'S TECU'. See p. 110.

A rude upright figure of a monk—5 feet 3 inches high—holding a book in the left hand: formerly placed, along with two or three fragments of other lesser figures of the Perpendicular period, at the north end of the Frater house.

Part of a Tudor cornice representing a monkey, flowers, &c., from abbat's house.

A cast of the bracket which supports the niche over the great west window of the nave. This is the rebus of abbat

Darnton, described on p. 106.

Broken scraps of Elizabethan figures, similar to those on the balcony at Fountains Hall. One inscribed LIB.

Fragments of stained glass.

Perforated devices in lead: formerly inserted in the windows for the purpose of ventilation.

Portions of a wooden coffin, found in the Court in front of the chapter house.

Two floor piscinæ from the nine altars. Half of a blue marble fluted basin, from the same place.

Part of a grey marble gravestone found near or in the Gallilee, inscribed in Lombardic letters...MAS DE A...E.

"Perpendicular" panelling cut in limestone, and found in the lady-chapel.

A collection of broken pottery, keys, picks, masons' tools, knives, pincers, a trowel, stirrups, six prick and rowelled spurs, bridle-bits, horse-shoes, &c.

A brass ladle, and other fragments of kitchen utensils.

A large collection of plaster capitals, bands of columns, and other fragments of that beautiful Nidderdale marble-work so lavishly used by the builders of the choir, refectory, and other parts, between 1204 and 1260. Some of these were found in the abbat's house; but most of them in the choir and lady chapel. Two of the most delicately carved caps were turned up during the excavation of the frater house in 1856.

A few mediæval bricks & roofing tiles.

Effigy of Lord Mowbray (See p. 109).

Scraps of John de Cancia's "painted pavement." The floor of the court room was laid in 1855, with the old tiles that formerly strewed the floor of the passage under the vestry; along with others of the Early English and Tudor period found during the excavation.

A quantity of lead piping.

A brass buckle, chain, book-clasp; a pilgrim's bottle (metal), having impressed on one side a regal crown, and on the other the initials R P. in black letter.

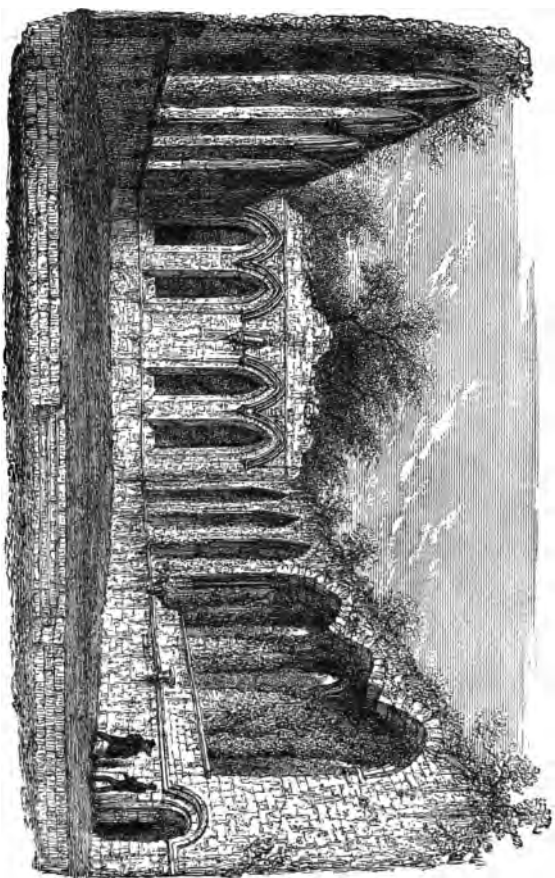
And, finally,

A portion of the last supply of coal that the abbat needed.

On descending to the cloister court, we enter the **KITCHEN**, a valuable example of the domestic architecture of the twelfth century; vaulted like the court house above, to a single pillar. A more interesting instance, however, of the skill and confidence of the architect may be observed in the heads of the two fireplaces—each not less than $16\frac{1}{2}$ ft. long and $16\frac{1}{2}$ ft. deep—the heads of which are straight and formed of huge stones, dovetailed together on the principle of an arch. Hence, too, another requisite must have been contributed; for the kitchen is entirely destitute of windows on three sides, and the triangular apertures to the south seem intended rather for the admission of air than of light. The two openings to the west wall have been, no doubt, the hatchways by which provisions were served to the refectory, but enlarged in modern times to obtain a prospect.

The **REFECTORY**, which forms the central apartment on the south side of the cloister court, is a very beautiful structure, of the Early English period, of the dimensions of 109 by $46\frac{1}{2}$ ft. As it could not, therefore, be conveniently covered by one ridged roof, it was divided by a row of four marble columns, of which, however, all remains but the foundations of one have been destroyed within the last century. During the excavation of 1856, it was found that the tables had not ranged down the middle of the apartment, but had been placed, along with their seats or stalls, on a dais of the width of $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet; raised 13 inches above the floor; and occupying the upper end, and 89 feet each of the east and west sides. From the recess on the west side, a portion of scripture was read during the repast. The parapet of the staircase has been broken down and unskillfully repaired, but the bracket of the pulpit remains, in the form of an expanded flower.

A door at the south-west corner of the cloister court leads to the **BUTTERY**, a curiously contrived room, which has, also, an outlet towards the river, and an opening to the refectory, which was the hatchway. On excavating this place a quantity of ashes, fish, and animal bones, broken pottery, oyster shells, flooring tiles, the remains of a boiler, some lead piping, and a



FOUNTAINS ABBEY. THE REFECTORY.



stone drain leading from where the sink stood, were discovered.

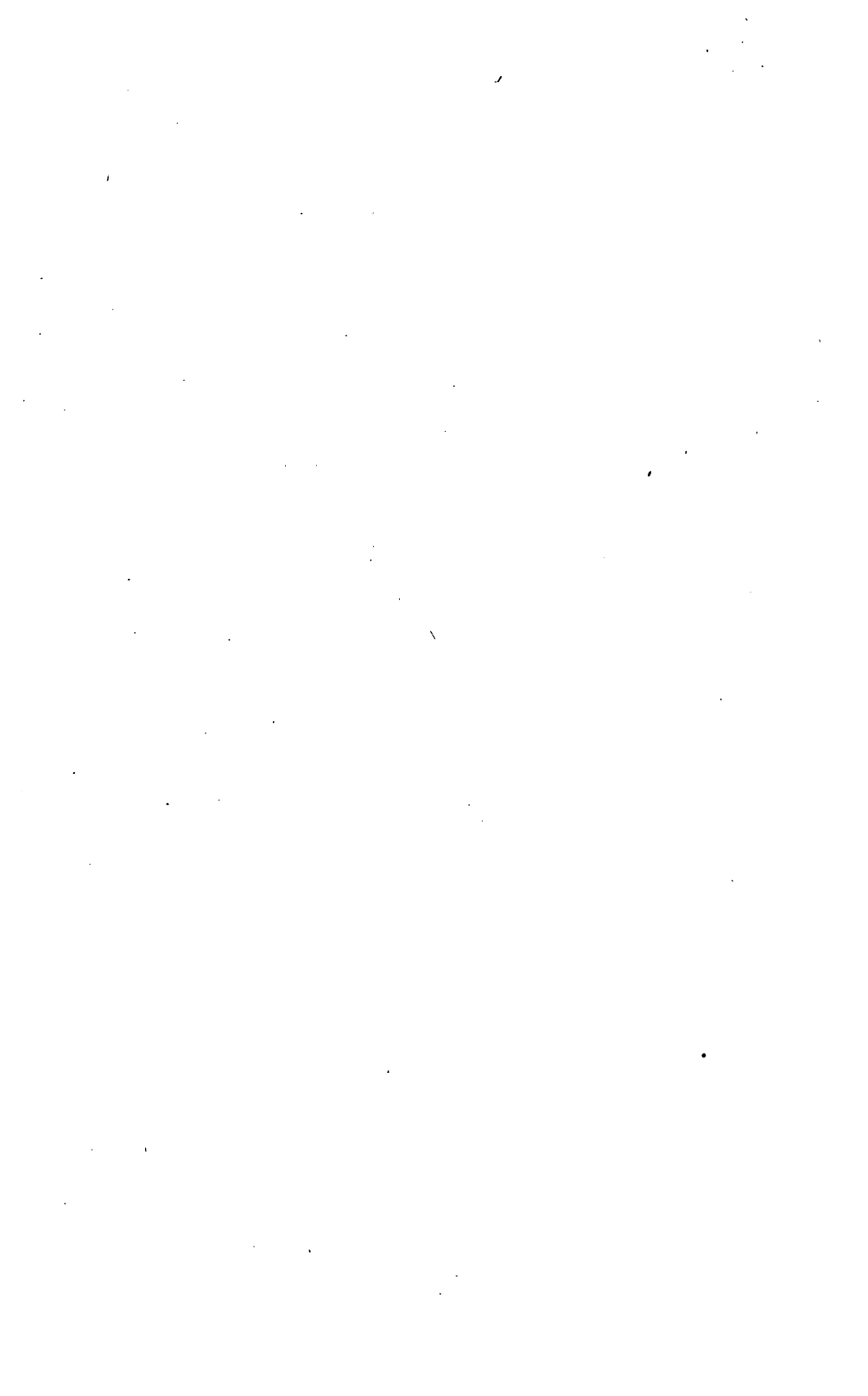
The west cloister having been, no doubt, already examined, we now pass to the BASE COURT, on the south side of the chapter house. The whole area of this court, as well as that of the buildings which enclose it, on the south and east sides, have been discovered only in a recent excavation from the kitchen to the chapter house; which, by restoring the old level, has added both considerably to the ground plan, and increased the picturesque appearance of the abbey. On the west side, it will be observed to have had a pent house attached to the frater house; on the south, the cellar and brewhouse before mentioned; and, on the east, three apartments which will attract attention chiefly from the fact that they were the prisons of the abbey. These favourite localities of the novelists were used for the punishment of such monks as had been found guilty of felony or other heinous crimes; but, in this instance, the larger cell, on the south, may have been required by the secular authority which the convent enjoyed within "The Liberty of Fountains." In each, however, it is evident, solitary confinement and the most strict isolation was inflicted, from the consequent presence of a convenience, which added only to the offensive character of the place. The apartments on the east side of them, as well as those in the upper story, may have been used only for subordinate purposes, since the former were approached through the abbat's coal yard; indeed, an ash-heap was discovered in front of the round-headed doorway. The staircase at the north-west corner may have served some apartments of the abbat's house over the passage.

The whole of the apartments of the abbey have now been visited, and an idea has probably been formed of the nature, wants, and arrangement of the most definite and perfect exponent of the monastic system remaining in the kingdom. The recent excavation has, however, disclosed in the ruin of the abbat's house now before us, an equally interesting example of our early domestic architecture, which furnishes, also, additional evidence of the dignity, hospitality, and general social condition of the rulers of these influential establishments.

Previously to the month of November, 1848, the site of this house remained in the condition in which it was left when Sir Stephen Procter pulled it down to obtain building materials for Fountains Hall—a shapeless mass of rubbish, overgrown with weeds and brushwood, which rendered it inaccessible, and entirely concealed any trace of foundations which might have been sought. From a practice, however, which prevailed in the Cistercian houses, supported, locally, by inferences derived from the records of the abbey, I had been induced for some years past, to point out this as the site of the abbat's house, in opposition to the received idea that the hospitium, on the west side of the great cloister, had been appropriated to that purpose; but beyond this suggestion, nothing, until the period in question was ascertained. At that time, the arched space above the river requiring repair, and consequently a removal of the soil, a pavement was discovered, which indicated the important character of the ruined building; and ultimately led—by the noble owner's direction—to the extensive and interesting excavation which ensued.

Before proceeding to a survey of the ruin, it should be observed by how great a sacrifice of labour the site of the house has been obtained in this particular and favourite locality; for, as the valley is extremely contracted, and the Skell incapable of permanent diversion, the only expedient of the monks was to build above the river; and four parallel tunnels, each nearly 300 feet long, still attest their perseverance and skill.

As far as remains enable us to judge, the building of the house was undertaken by abbat John de Cancia, after he had completed the choir and lady chapel of the conventual church. The wealth and reputation of the monastery were, in his time, nearly at their height; and the sweeping donations it had received from the Percies, and Mowbrays, and Romillies, and their sub-infeudatories, had enabled them to realise their architectural designs on the grandest scale. Until this time, the residence of the abbat was probably of the humble, but not unusual, materials of wood and plaster; as, indeed, the lodgings of the prior of Bolton seem to have been at the time of the Dissolution.





SEAL AND COUNTER-SEAL OF FOUNTAINS ABBEY. 1410.

The character of the structure, like that of the abbey, has been plain and substantial, depending more on the grand proportion and combination of the main outlines than on the elaborate decoration of particular features or parts. The arrangement must, however, either have been very commodious, or the domestic economy invariable; for it seems to have remained unaltered until that era of social change which heralded the sixteenth century, when one of those great architectural reformers—Darnton or Huby—built a separate refectory, and formed several apartments, by dividing the great hall, which decreased simplicity of manners had rendered of unnecessary dimensions.

The chief or state approach to the house was by a spacious alley, from the east side of the cloister court, richly, but not continuously, decorated by a trefoil-headed arcade, supported by a double row of shafts, and so deeply recessed, as, subsequently, to have required the insertion of solid masonry behind the foremost shaft. The HALL, to which this passage led, has been, unquestionably, one of the most spacious and magnificent apartments ever erected in the kingdom, and admirably adapted for the entertainment of those distinguished persons and their hosts of gentilitial retainers by whom the abbat was continually visited. Its internal length is not less than 171 feet, and its width 70 feet; the bases, or foundations, of eighteen cylindrical columns, shafted and banded with marble, indicating its division into a nave and two aisles—the latter having circulated round the extremities of the former. The number and position of its windows cannot be ascertained; but the jambs and bases dug up within the area, shew that they were plain lancet lights similar to those of the lady chapel. Of the existence of clerestory windows there is no trace. The chief entrance to the hall has been torn down to the ground; but from the bases of the shafts by which it was flanked, it appears to have been of similar design to those of the lady chapel. On each side of the hall, which stands directly across the river, occupying the whole width of the house from north to south, the other apartments have been grouped. Immediately opposite the entrance is the principal staircase. On the left, in the north wall, one

of the great fireplaces, now ruined to the hearth. To the right of the staircase has been a room not yet fully cleared out. The next apartment, southward, was the CHAPEL, where the foundations of two buttresses on the south side suggest the idea of three windows; and a base still attached to the north-east angle, the only other feature left, that three lancet lights occupied the eastern extremity. The stone altar is still tolerably perfect, but has lost its slab. On its north side has been a narrow staircase, leading either to the vestry, or the apartments of the chaplain; and, beyond, the long but narrow base of a work erected in the Perpendicular period, of which the use is uncertain.

On the north side of the chapel is a picturesque apartment partially vaulted, which, being below the general level of the other rooms, and from the declivity of the ground, always accessible, has often been delineated as a "crypt," but stoutly asserted by the country people to have been "the place where the abbat's six white chariot horses were kept!" "*Sex equi ad bigam*," the abbat certainly had in his stable at the time of the Dissolution; but, from the position and character of the place, it appears to have been the CELLAR and STORE HOUSE of his establishment.

To the south of the chapel, but detached from it by the intervention of the scullery yard, has been the KITCHEN—an apartment corroborating, in its dimensions and appliances, the most romantic ideas of monastic hospitality. At the south side are the foundations of two great fireplaces and a boiler, in a wall which has divided a narrow "back kitchen" from the chief apartment; and, in the north-east angle, a stone grate in the floor, which was covered by wooden doors, and communicates with the river below. This very singular object, of which I do not remember another example, has, most probably, been used as a ventilator, to mitigate a temperature which must always have been sufficiently oppressive, but which, on festive occasions, would not only be increased by a subsidiary fire and boiler, but also by two huge ovens, the one at the west, and the other and larger, at the east end of the apartment.

These buildings, with some indefinite appurtenances of the kitchen, have flanked the east side of the great hall. The arrangement on the west side has been nearly obliterated by the lapse of the arches above the river. There may be traced, however, towards the north, the foundation of a room, which, from the amplitude of its dimensions and the elevation of a dais at the west end, may be considered to have been the refectory, erected, it seems, by Darnton or Huby, and perhaps the apartment which, in a homage done to the latter abbat, in 1501, is styled "*Nova camera versus ecclesiam*."

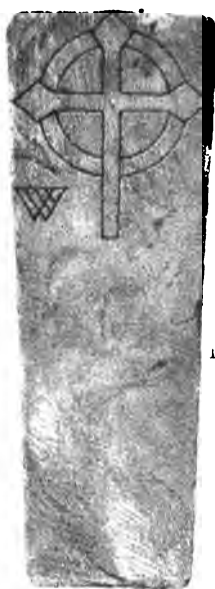
On the north side of this room was another, where stood a reservoir of water fed by a lead pipe (still partly visible) from a spring above the kitchen bank. To the west of it was the coal yard, in which the last supply that the abbat needed remained undisturbed until the excavation. There was found here, also, a large heap of ashes and cinders, just as they had been cast from the windows above—the sill having been worn by the frequent attrition of the shovel.

The removal of the mass disclosed what every housekeeper's experience would have suggested. First, of course, there was a silver spoon, weighing about an ounce, with a capacious bowl, slender octagonal stem, and a head like a plain inverted Tudor bracket; then, broken pottery of different kinds and sizes—from the painted ware that had disappeared from the abbat's table, to the large coarse jugs that, after many "a mere crack," had at last been broken in the kitchen; a small silver ornament resembling a lion's head, and apparently detached from an article of table plate; a silver ring; a brass ring; several Nuremburg tokens; part of a perforated leaden ventilator, designed like Tudor window tracery; with a number of venison and beef bones, and bushels of oyster shells, mussel shells, and cockle shells, as fresh and pearly as when they left abbat Bradley's table. Yet, trifling and worthless in every respect as most of these objects might be, they seemed, as they

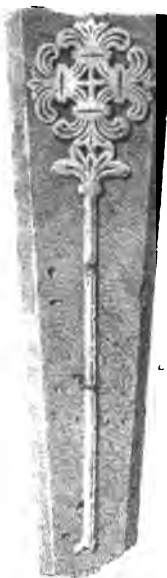


came from the hiding place where forgotten hands had cast them, to connect the spectator with those whom three centuries have divided from personal sympathy and association, more intimately than the disclosure of that ruined scene in which they had so long been consigned to oblivion.

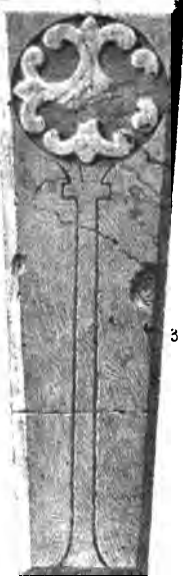
The ENCAUSTIC TILES, found in excavating the several apartments—and it is remarkable that two additional patterns only have been subsequently discovered in the conventual church—are numerous and singular; and the evidence obtained on the subject of mediæval brickwork, important and interesting. The floors of the principal apartments have been paved either with encaustic or plain tiles; but, as the greater part of them had been torn up and removed before the house was pulled down, when the specimens that remain were so much disturbed, it is difficult to determine to what particular apartment they belonged. The presence of a few geometrical tiles, similar to those with which John de Cancia decorated the church, seems to indicate that he had bestowed also a pavement on the hall and other chief apartments of the house; but none were found fixed, unless the small square tiles east of the refectory may be referred to that early period. The rest of the tiles, that have been found in different parts among the rubbish, are generally of the Tudor period; of which character, also, is a tolerably perfect pavement, upwards of 30 feet square, at the south end of the great hall. Although no general device has been attempted in its arrangement, beyond a few plain borders or bounding courses, respective of the bases of pillars, yet several patterns, which are very interesting, are introduced without reference to equi-distance or principle. One pattern, of four tiles, displays the arms of the abbey (azure), three horse shoes (or), and the very appropriate circumscription, used by Darnton in the lady chapel, BENEDICITE FONTES DOMINO. Another, and nearly similar pattern, of four tiles, exhibits the same arms, but circumscribed by SOLI DEO HONOR ET GLORIA—a motto always used by Huby, and identified more particularly with him in two fragmentary tiles, where the shield has displayed his initials, with the mitre and crozier. There is also a pattern,



1



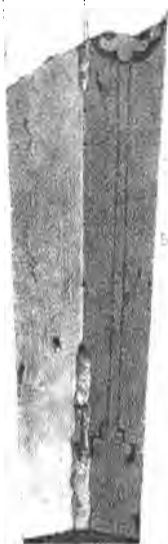
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On the N.E. Buttress Lady Chapel

COFFIN SLABS DISCOVERED IN THE CEMETERY, FOUNTAINS ABBEY.
IN MARCH AND APRIL 1853

bearing the initials J. D. J. D., but without legend, and similar to a much better impression, stolen, soon after its discovery, by some prowling "collector," from the centre of the dais in the refectory. It was, no doubt, the device of abbat Darnton.

On clearing the ground on the north side of the alley leading from the cloister court to the abbat's house, in 1852, it was found that a passage of a similar date and character had led from it to the opposite door of the lady chapel. Except the great effect gained by the removal of very deep rubbish from the walls of the chapter house and the choir, little of particular interest was acquired, except the basement story of a large apartment that had been erected in the Tudor period; and, it may be, of that "nova camera" just alluded to, if I am mistaken in its identity with the abbat's refectory. On the other and east side of this supplementary passage, had been another small apartment that had been added at this great period of change, but whose foundations were discovered all but level with the ground; a wide doorway leading to the burial ground on the east side of the lady chapel; and, attached to its outer wall, in the position indicated by the plan, considerable remains of an oven with its ashes—since unfortunately removed—that, I apprehend, had been used for the preparation of the eucharistic wafer.

From the south-east angle of the lady chapel, a wall, whose position can now only be traced below the sward, was continued—as is shewn also on the plan—to the opposite angle of the abbat's house. Beyond this, and in front of the east end of the church, were found several early sepulchral slabs. These remains have naturally led to the supposition that the cemetery was situated in this part of the valley; and subsequent examination of the subsoil has confirmed that opinion. It may be that the armorial design of a "bend" displayed on one of the slabs has commemorated a member either of the Yorkshire houses of Mauley, or Stopham, or Pannal; for, of course, the colours are unrepresented.

The abbat's garden and orchard were at the east end of the church, enclosed by a high wall, pulled down, with another

which crossed the valley a little further eastward, soon after Mr. Aislabie purchased the place. But, beyond these limits, a range of buildings extended even to the site of the present east lodge—about 500 yards—the foundations still remaining under the terraced walk.

In a particular position under the rocks—easy to be found by the beaten pathway—an echo can be heard, remarkable for its powerful reflection from the abbey; though often more amusing to a bystander by its discovery of the mental capacity and social position of those who, by some characteristic war-cry, endeavour to provoke its powers.

It may be useful to observe, that a footpath by the river side leads from Fountains bridge to Aldfield Spa; a most valuable sulphuretted spring, in one of the most picturesque passes of Skeldale. It was discovered accidentally, about the year 1698, but has hitherto been unproductive of its capability, chiefly from the want of accommodation for visitors. There is, however, a bath room, with conveniences for hot and cold baths. I am not able to state minutely its component parts, but the following analysis, prepared by Mr. Brunton, a skilful chemist of Ripon, about 60 years ago, will at least give an idea of its importance. A gallon exhibited :

<i>Solid Contents.</i>	<i>Grs</i>	<i>Gaseous Contents,</i>	<i>C. In.</i>
Carbonate of Lime . . .	12.5	Carbonic Acid . . .	6.
Carbonate of Magnesia . .	3.5	Azote . . .	4.
Sulphate of Magnesia . .	5.	Sulphuretted Hydrogen . .	21.
Muriate of Soda . . .	208.		
Muriate of Magnesia . . .	96.		
<hr/>		<hr/>	
Total . . .	325.	Total . . .	31.

Very pure azotic gas, in a free state, emitted at intervals, was collected at the rate of a gallon in 56 minutes, though several bubbles escaped.

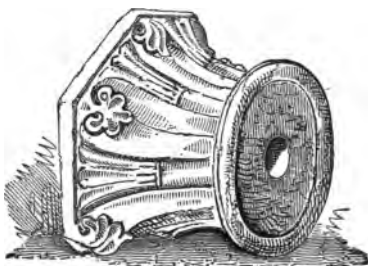
Higher up there is a pretty little glen, branching off to the left, full of romantic beauty. A footpath leads up through this to the village of Risplith. In the glen will be found a spring of iron water.

On leaving the abbey close, we enter a portion of the Studley grounds, not already visited; and, after the enjoyment of much

sylvan beauty, enhanced in a remarkable degree by our elevation above the contracted and deeply wooded dell, emerge on a delicious lawn, before a beautiful casino or **BANQUETING HOUSE**. In the chief apartment, adorned with a superb ceiling and other elaborate decorations of the last century, is a bronze statue of the Venus de Medicis, and, over the mantel-piece, a painting of "the governor of Surat going a-hawking."

As we recede from this seductive spot, we continue to recognise many pleasing objects, which, being old acquaintance, need no introduction, though invested with new interest by the reversal of our former position and approach; until, descending the well walk, we speedily arrive at the lodge, and so bid adieu to scenes that, for many a year, may make

The mind a mansion for all lovely forms,
The memory a dwelling place
For all sweet sounds and harmonies.

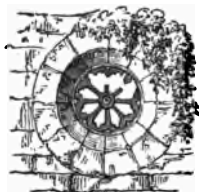


CAPITAL, FROM THE CHAPTER HOUSE.



INITIALS, ETC., OF MARMADUKE HUBBY.

STUDLEY CHURCH.



IN the visitor's way to or from the abbey, he may repair to the new church on the hill above the lodge gates. This fine building is conspicuously situated on the edge of the vale, at the end of the noble avenue in the park, and forms an interesting object in the landscape along the drive from Ripon. It has been placed midway between the villages of Aldfield and Studley Royal, to supply the spiritual wants of both villages, instead of the old chapel at Aldfield and the private chapel at Studley Hall, at which places the morning and afternoon services were alternately conducted.

The approach to the church from the lodge gates at once unfolds one of the most pleasing and effective views of the fabric—the east end, with its beautiful groups of sculpture, the side elevations of the nave and chancel, the massive tower with its lofty and elegant spire, the whole backed out by the ancient trees, combine to form a picture with hardly an equal in the county. It is constructed in the 13th century style of architecture, and has been erected by the Marchioness of Ripon, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary. The foundation stone, which bears the following inscription, was laid by the Marchioness of Ripon (then Countess de Grey), in March, 1871:—IN HONOREM BEATÆ MARIÆ VIRGINIS HANC PETRAM POSUIT HENRIETTA COMITESSA DE GREY ET RIPON, DIE ANNUNCIATIONIS, A.D. MDCCCLXXI.

The church consists of a nave with aisles, chancel and inner chancel, vestry and west tower, and spire 152 feet high.

There are two entrances to the church, the chief one being at the west end, and the other by the south porch.

EXTERIOR. The tower is of two stages, and has octagonal turrets at its angles, capped with pinnacles and finials, and is relieved by bold buttresses. The lowest stage of the tower

forms the west front, this being the chief entrance to the church has a very handsome doorway, partly concealed by an exterior arch, through which we pass to a pleasing trefoil-headed doorway, enriched by sculpture, in the form of birds on a running spray. Above the doorway is a fine four-light window, with circular tracery above, and trefoils between the spandrils. On the south side of the tower is the doorway to the ringing chamber; the staircase, in the form of an octagonal turret, abuts on the tower, terminating in a conical head with a carved finial. The spire springs from an ornamental cornice, and is divided by bands of roses and fleurs-de-lis into three stages; prominent gable-headed windows relieve its alternate sides. From the carved finial which finishes the spire rises the vane or weathercock. In the first stage of the octagonal spire is the bell chamber, with a single-light window at each side, blocked with lead louvres.

The porch is on the south side, and has a richly moulded archway, with an ornamentation of ball flowers on its surface; in the gable is a sculptured representation of the Annunciation of the Virgin—the Holy Ghost being figured in the quatrefoil above. The groining of this porch is very effective, having stone ribs enriched with fleurs-de-lis. The inner doorway, whose surface and soffit are sculptured, springs from a moulded string course, continued from the lateral walls.

The exterior of the nave will probably be next examined. The south side is divided by buttresses into three bays, and a single window, whilst the north side has an additional bay; a trefoil-headed two-light window, enriched with the nail-head ornament, is placed between each buttress. The clerestory, somewhat stunted in appearance, has sixteen single trefoil-headed lights.

The chancel is in two bays, divided by bold buttresses, and is of a pleasing and harmonious design. The windows are in pairs, having banded shafts, with double trefoil heads, and enriched with ball flower ornament; they are placed under crocketed labels, each terminating with a rich finial, which dies into the cornice; the terminations of these labels are carved into

heads, and viewing them from the east they thus appear—south side: Countess, Count, Bishop, Sculptor, Peasant man, Huntsman. North side: King, Queen, Warrior, Architect, Peasant woman, Artist.

The east window occupies the whole width between the buttresses, and has four lights, the head being filled in with deeply moulded tracery. A crocketed label runs round the head of the window, and its finial supports the central piece of sculpture—the Crucifixion, which is very beautifully worked out, and will be found worthy of a minute inspection; on the right hand side are the figures of S. George and the Dragon, and S. Bernard with his book; on the left those of S. Wilfrid with his episcopal staff, and S. Gabriel with his sword and shield. These groups are placed under shallow niches, filled in with blank tracery; the finials running through the coping. The gable is finished with a cross. The vestry, on the north side, has a flat lead roof, and parapet with gurgoyles, and is lighted by three two-light windows, and has a doorway for the use of the minister.

On passing into the interior by the west door the visitor must turn to inspect the sculpture in the inner tracery of the west window. It represents the Root of Jesse and Ancestors of Our Lord, on the sill of the window is the reclining figure of Jesse. The corbels supporting the vaulting ribs of the tower are carved into the representation of the Beasts of Daniel.

The architecture of the nave is of a light and elegant character; it is divided from its aisles by a bold arcade of four bays on each side, supported by cylindrical columns, enriched with black marble shafts, and beautifully carved caps. Above is the clerestory, with a low trefoil arcade on black marble shafts with deeply moulded caps. The division of each bay is marked by a black marble column projected from the clerestory, these are carried by carved corbels and support the tie beams of the roof. In the aisles a continuous plain and angular arcading, supported on black marble columns gives a pleasing appearance to this portion of the church. At the east end of the south aisle is the chapel dedicated to St. George—the

stained glass of the window representing the life and death of that saint. Here a family vault has been built, and it is intended that the future interments of the family shall take place in it.

The chancel is approached through an elegant and lofty arch, springing from coloured marble columns with moulded bases and gracefully carved capitals. There is an elegance and harmony about this portion of the church which must captivate every visitor. The inner tracery of the windows, supported on various coloured marble shafts, has a good effect, while the sculptures harmonise throughout with their surroundings. In the upper tracery of the windows and at the springing of the dome are figures of angels—these being Revelation subjects correspond with the illustrations in the stained glass of the chancel. The ceiling is in the form of a waggon-headed vault of pine, divided into panels by a moulded rib; that of the inner chancel terminates in a dome of wood, beautifully carved and decorated. The floors of both chancels are laid with marble mosaic; a porphyry step dividing the two.

The pulpit is of stone, and is placed at the east end of the north aisle of the nave, whilst the organ occupies a prominent position in the second bay from the east end of the nave. The font is situated in its usual place at the west end of the south aisle. The stalls, seats, and other fittings, are in perfect harmony with the building.

STAINED GLASS. The west window contains eight scenes from the life of the virgin; the figure of the Holy Mother occupying a central position in the upper tracery. The subjects of the aisle windows are all Scriptural; those in the chancel are from the Book of Revelation alone. The clerestory windows contain the Angelic Hierarchy. This portion of the work has been executed by Saunders and Co., London, the cartoons having been prepared by Mr. F. Weekes.

The architect of this beautiful structure is Mr. W. Burgess, London; the builder, Mr. J. Thompson, Peterborough; the clerk of the works, Mr. J. Thomas, Cardiff; the sculptor, Mr. T. Nicholes.



THE TOWER OF THE CASTLE OF THE BISHOP OF LONDON



MARKENFIELD HALL.



THREE miles to the south-west of Ripon stands an interesting specimen of Domestic Architecture of the fourteenth century. Built by Sir Thomas Markenfield in the centre of land held since the time of Henry I., it became the home of a celebrated family. Sir Ninian, one of the descendants of Thomas Markenfield, according to an old ballad, commanded with Lord Clifford at the memorable battle of Flodden, and distinguished himself there, for we are told :—

“Next went Sir Nynyan Markenfyl
In armor cote of cunynge work.”

Thomas, his son, succeeded him, but unfortunately marrying Margaret, the daughter of John Norton, of Norton, he was incited to join in the rebellions in the reign of Henry VIII., and from that time their ancient house began to tremble. Thomas, his son, who was seventeen years old at his father's death, married Isabel, the daughter of Sir William Ingilby, of Ripley, knight. Inheriting all his father's martial spirit, he took a part in “the Rising of the North,” and on the ruin of his party, in 1569, his estates were confiscated, and he fled to the continent. A fine tomb in the north transept commemorates the burial of Sir Thomas and Elenor his wife, “afore the awter of Saynt Androwe in the monastery of Saynt Wilfride

in Ripon" in 1453. The license to crenellate this house was obtained in 1310, and it was probably begun about that time.

The hall is a large castellated structure, in the form of a quadrangle, and surrounded by a moat, part of which is now filled up. It was erected by Sir Thomas Markenfield, in the time of Edward III., who might employ the company of builders who had then just completed the additions to the choir of Ripon minster, as a great similarity may be observed in the mouldings, pyramidal turrets, and other parts. Hesitating between hospitable confidence and armed precaution, yet never intended as a place of serious or permanent defence, Markenfield presents a fine specimen of those "ancient homes of England," which, from the increasing sociability, security, and polish of the times, began to arise during the reign of the third Edward.

In the fifteenth century some alterations were made, chiefly in the doorways and lights on the east side of the quadrangle, and in the great change of society which ensued in the Elizabethan period, a general subdivision of the several apartments became necessary. Since that time, however—though for a while it was inhabited by the Egertons—it has been occupied as a farm house, and so lost more and more of a character which was in some degree restored a few years ago under the direction of the late Mr. Walbran. At this time some modern insertions were unfortunately made in the old style, notably a window, with a lily over it, in the place of the outer door of the hall over the basement story. The foundations of a stair leading to this door have since been found in the court yard, and there is a gable-mark over it. See woodcut.

Though the original ground-plan is probably undisturbed, the entire shell of the present structure is not, wholly, of the founder's work. Indeed, the gate-house is only of the Elizabethan period, and the stables, on the west side of the court, though highly curious, have been partially renewed.

The principal apartments were in the north-east angle, elevated, as usual, above the basement story, in which were the

kitchen, cellars, and other offices, still evident and partly vaulted. The north wing is entirely occupied by the Hall, a noble apartment about 40 feet long, and the whole width of the building. It is lighted by four Decorated windows, with pointed arches, two towards the court-yard and two towards the moat. At the west end were the wooden "screens," with music-gallery over them, lighted by a window. At the south-east is the chapel, which has a fine east window, with geometrical tracery; and a richly decorated piscina, with the arms of the family. To the north of the chapel is the solar, communicating with a garderobe; and on the south a room occupied perhaps by the chaplain; and apartments over the stables, most likely bedrooms.

On the north side of the court yard are nine shields of arms: four are defaced; the fifth bears the arms of the Markenfields; sixth, a *cross flory*; seventh, three mitres; eighth, an eagle displayed; ninth, five *fusils*, each charged with an *escallop*, for Plumpton.

The mansion is placed in the north and east corners of the quadrangle. Two long windows with trefoil heads, each divided by a mullion into two lights, remain on the north side. A winding staircase, leading to the battlements, is enclosed in a large turret, similar to one in Spofforth Castle. The original Decorated house was altered and added to in the 15th and 16th centuries. The barns, stables, and other offices, complete the remaining part of the quadrangle.

Mr. Parker, in his *Domestic Architecture*, says: "Taken altogether, Markenfield Hall bears a greater resemblance to the generality of south country than northern manor houses. The introduction of large Decorated windows of two, and one of three lights, the latter towards the moat, is not characteristic of a dwelling house, built with a studious view to defence. In respect of plan, Markenfield has some likeness to the mansion at Woodland Mere, Wiltshire, which is partly of this century; in the latter, the chief entrance to the older portion of the building was clearly by an external staircase."

A piece of curiously carved oak, which has originally formed

the head of a doorway, is still preserved. It bears the arms of the family,—quarterly, one and four; on a *bend* three *bezants*, Markenfield; second, a *fesse* between six *escallops*; third, three conical helmets. Supporters, two stags *regardant*. Crest, a hind's head *affrontée*.

Within the recollection of several aged persons, other large buildings and offices are remembered to have stood without the moat; but these, together with a ponderous draw-bridge leading to the entrance on the south side, have long since been removed.

Its gateway is all grass-grown now,
No coming—no departing train,
With glittering sword and nodding plume,
Shall spur through it again.

On the attainder of Thomas Markenfield in 1569, this estate was confiscated to the crown, who granted it to the Lord Chancellor Egerton, ancestor to the celebrated Duke of Bridgewater, who sold it to Sir Fletcher Norton, first Lord Grantley, by whose representative it is at present possessed.

REFERENCES TO PLAN.

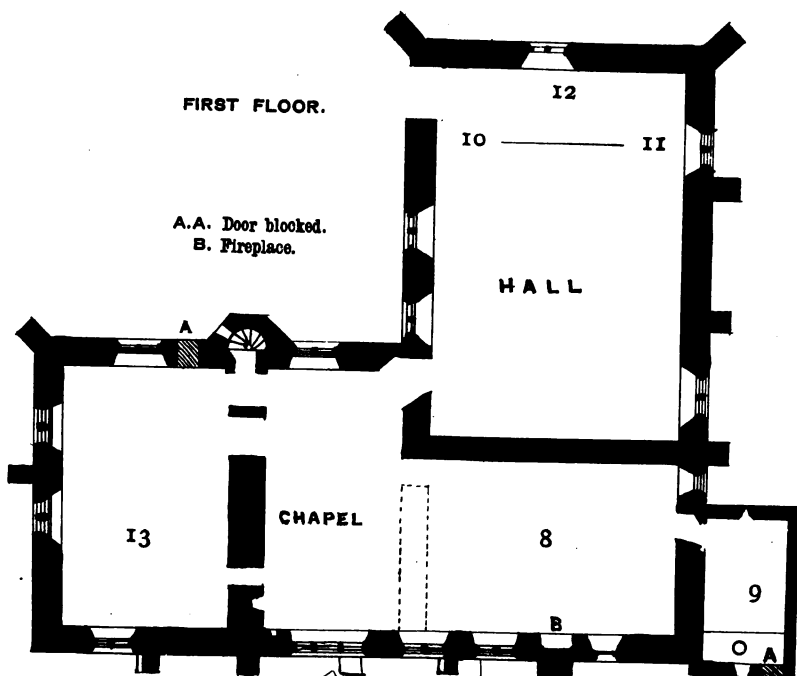
- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 Kitchen. | 10-11 Line of Screens. |
| 2-5 Offices and Cellars. | 12 Music-gallery over Screens. |
| 6 Lower Garderobe. | 13 Chaplain's Apartment (?) to the |
| 7 Kitchen Garderobe. | south of which are rooms over |
| 8 Solar, or "sitting-room." | stables. |
| 9 Upper Garderobe. | |



MARKENFIELD HALL, YORKSHIRE.

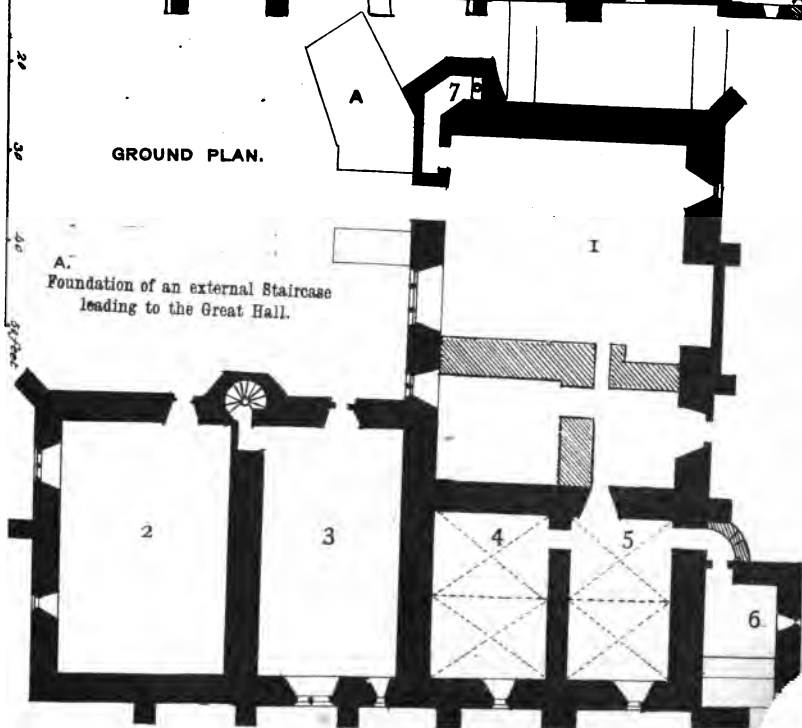
FIRST FLOOR.

A.A. Door blocked.
B. Fireplace.



GROUND PLAN.

A.
Foundation of an external Staircase
leading to the Great Hall.







THE EPISCOPAL PALACE.

T SPACIOUS stone building, designed in the Tudor style, by Mr. Railton, occupies a slight eminence about a mile north-west of Ripon, commanding agreeable prospects down the valleys of the Laver and the Yore, as well as of the cathedral and the city. The foundation stone was laid by the bishop of Ripon, on the 1st of October, 1838, and the structure was prepared for his reception in the autumn of 1841.

The appurtenant demesne, which adjoins the ancient manorial park of the archbishop of York, contains one hundred and nine acres, and was gratuitously ceded by Mrs. Lawrence, the lessee of that prelate, who also provided the building stone.

A small chapel had been originally included among the apartments of the palace, but a disposition having been manifested by the inhabitants of a neighbouring hamlet to attend the services which were more particularly intended for the bishop's household, Archbishop Harcourt, who had witnessed the inconvenience of their number, and their inability regularly to visit the parish church, munificently placed the sum of 3000*l.* at the disposal of the bishop of Ripon, wherewith to erect a more suitable structure. A site having been accordingly chosen on the east side of the palace, the foundation of a chapel, designed by Mr. Railton, in the Perpendicular style, was laid on the 24th of June, 1846. A brass fixed in the north wall is thus inscribed : AD

DEI GLORIAM IN XTO HANC CAPELLAM IN USUM EPISCOPOR' RIP'; FUNDAVIT EDUARDUS ARCHIEP' EBOR', CAROLO THO : EPISCOPO. AN. DI 1847. The eastern semi-hexagonal apse of the chapel has three windows of stained glass by Wailes (1850-1852) representing our Saviour and the Evangelists, Apostles, and Saints. On a fillet beneath six of the apostles in the north window is : ✠ SOLI DEO GLORIA ✠ THIS WINDOW IS THE GIFT OF 185 CLERGYMEN, ORDAINED BY THE BISHOP OF RIPON, RECORDING THEIR SENSE OF THE KINDNESS, PIETY, AND ABILITY WITH WHICH THE REVD. CHARLES DODGSON, M.A., EXAMINING CHAPLAIN, HAS DISCHARGED THE DUTIES OF HIS OFFICE DURING 15 YEARS. A.D. 1852.

CASTLE DYKES.

In a county so rich in Roman remains and within a few miles of that interesting station, Isurium, we are not surprised to find, scattered about, small camps. Castle Dykes is one, and within a short distance there are two others, the one on Carls-moor and the other on Nutwith common. In March, 1866, some members of the Ripon Scientific Society examined this site, and an account was written by Mr. T. C. Heslington. At a distance of about three miles from Ripon, on the left of the road to Tanfield, a fosse and agger, forming three sides of a quadrangle, enclosing about five and a half acres, may be observed. Here, in the upper part of the field, after excavation, was found the Prætorium, and two rooms, the larger 25 ft. by 21½ ft., and the smaller 15 ft. by 14½ ft., were traced out. Several of the pillars forming the hypocaust were found *in situ*; and tesserae, with fragments of pavement, brilliantly coloured stucco displaying elegant patterns in various colours, and other remains, indicated a luxurious Roman dwelling. Fragments of bones, human and animal, of skulls, of glass and Samian ware; pins, shells, &c.; and the remains of a cremated interment were amongst the smaller articles which rewarded this examination.

WEST TANFIELD.



DURING the early part of the sixteenth century Leland "passed by ferry for lack of bridge" the dark coloured and moor-stained Yore, and found "the townlet of West Tanfelde standing on a cliving ground." "There be," says he, "two faire parkes at Tanfelde, and meatly plenty of wood. The castelle of Tanfelde, or rather, as it is now, a meane manor place, stondeth hard on a ripe of We, wher I saw no notable building, but a fair toured gate house, and a haulle of squarid stone." It is much the same now, but that a substantial and commodious bridge spans the Yore.

Some celebrity is attached to this village ; for here the "Marmions of real history" had a mansion, which John Lord Marmion, for his great services in the Scottish wars, was allowed to castellate ; but no remains of it now exist, except the gateway tower or porter's lodge, at the west end of the church. There are several fire-places and other conveniences in the tower, which has a fine and elegantly proportioned oriel window, commanding an extensive prospect.

In preparing for the erection of the present rectory, the foundations of this castle were discovered, and a well of excellent water, in which were found several ancient dirks, since presented, we believe, to the British Museum.

It is remarkable that this lordship, together with many others, came into the possession of the Marmions by the marriage of Robert Lord Marmion with Amice Fitzhugh, in the thirteenth century, and passed out of it in the next by the marriage of Elizabeth, heiress of Robert de Marmion, with Henry Lord Fitzhugh.

The church was originally Norman ; but it was most probably extensively restored, if not rebuilt, at the time of the

erection of the castle, since the Perpendicular work in both is very similar. The north aisle, containing the Marmion tombs, was rebuilt by Maude de Marmion, in 1343. Though it may not vie with the neighbouring structures of Bedale, Burniston, Well, or Kirklington, yet it exceeds them all in the number and splendour of its sepulchral decorations.

At the upper end of the aisle, under an arch in the wall, lies the effigy of a recumbent knight, in link mail, much defaced, and by his side his lady, with her hands conjoined. She has a plain mantle and head dress. It is possible these may represent Lord John de Marmion, who died in 1322, and his lady.

Next are the tombs of two ladies, which have been removed from the middle of the aisle to the place they now occupy against the wall, for accommodation in after days, when reverence was giving way to convenience. The figures of the females sculptured upon them are so much defaced, that it is almost impossible to assign to them any person or time, with any degree of certainty. Leland, writing in 1534, mentions one of them as having a "*crownet*" on her head. On one side are sculptured the following arms. First, Grey of Rotherfield, *barry* of six, over all a bend; second, Courtney; third, Clifford, *chequey a fesse*; fourth, a *chevron*, charged with a *fleur de lis*; fifth, Dispencer, *quarterly*, one and four, *or* and *gules*; two and three, a *fret*, and over all a *bend*.

At their feet, on a single low tomb, is the figure of a young cross-legged knight, in chain mail, with a large mantle almost covering his whole body. His feet rest against a lion, and a shield, without any charge, is by his left side. This is generally supposed to represent the weak and sickly Lord Robert de Marmion, the third baron, though it is probably of a much earlier date.

Insulated from the rest, at the middle of the east end of the aisle, is a magnificent tomb, whereon are the reclining figures of a knight and his lady, beautifully sculptured in alabaster. He is habited in plate mail, and has a conical helmet, highly enriched, which rests on another of larger size. On his breast are the arms of Marmion, *vair*, a *fesse*, *gules*. He wears

a finely-wrought Lancastrian S S collar. The head-dress of the lady is supported by two angels, and on her breast are sculptured the *chevronels* and the *vairy chief* of the St. Quintin family. These represent Sir Robert de Marmion (son of Sir John de Grey and Alice, daughter of John, second Lord Marmion) and Laura his wife, daughter and co-heiress of Herbert de St. Quintin. They had issue but one daughter, who married Henry, Lord Fitzhugh, father to Robert, the celebrated Bishop of London of that name. Over the tomb remains the iron "herse," with its prickets for lights at the corners and on the extremities of the ridge. It is an interesting and rare specimen. The framework was usually covered with rich tapestry.

Some fine old glass occupied the east and north windows of this noble aisle; but "restoration" has done its work, and little now remains but one window, consisting of fragments crowded together and made up with modern additions. The figures of St. Ambrose and St. William; a mutilated representation of the Crucifixion; the angel of justice; the sun and moon; and the arms of the Marmions and the St. Quintins, surrounded by a curious border of spread-eagles and bees, are all that remain of more than double the number of saints with other glories of a grand past. In the east window there is some modern glass to the memory of T. K. Staveley, Esq., of Old Sleningsford Hall, and also in the west window to the memory of his only son, Miles Staveley, Esq.

One of the most remarkable features in the church is a small chamber formed in the north eastern portion of the chancel arch. It is perhaps unique. It has often been styled a confessional; but, examination hardly corroborates such a view. Three trefoiled headed lights command the east and two the south; while a "squint" looks directly upon the centre of the east of the Marmion chantry, and an arch opens to the north. Its internal area is 3 ft., 9 in. by 4 ft.

Another peculiarity in this edifice is a low side window of two plain square lights, in the south-east corner of the nave. It is more like a hollow buttress opening into the nave by a some-

what flattened arch. Whether this may have been an outward confessional or an alms window it is difficult to say; but it is worth notice to observe that the line of the "squint" before mentioned also commands this window.

The ring of bells, now six in number, have recently been excellently rehung by Mallaby, of Masham. The three new ones are by Warner and Co. The three old ones bear the following inscriptions:—

First bell. GLORIA IN ALTISSIMIS DEO, 1685. W.B. CHVRCHWARDEN. s. s. Ebor.

Second bell. BEATVS EST POPVLVS QVI EXAVDIVNT CLANGOREM, 1724. s. s. Ebor.

The third, or death bell. ANTE JACETIS HVMO SONITV RESIPISCITE MÆSTO, 1695. s. s. Ebor.

Some interesting, but imperfect, sepulchral inscriptions are scattered about the floor; and there is, at the west end of the nave, a plain coffin lid of mountain limestone, of early character.

In the chancel is an ancient brass figuring a priest in his robes, and bearing this inscription:—

DUM VIXIT RECTOR DE TANFELD NOMINE THOMAS
SUTTON. EN JACET HIC GRADUATUS ET ILLE MAGISTER
ARTIBUS. AC ECIAM CANONICUS HICQUE WEST CHESTER.
SIC NORTON VICTOR FFUNDITE VOTA PRECOR.

THORNBOROUGH.

At a distance of a little more than a mile north-east of Tanfield there are some remarkable earthworks. They were supposed to be Roman, because the Roman vicinal way from Leeming Lane to Bracchium passed near. But no Roman remains have been found, and their circular form, as well as their situation on an open moor, negative this idea. The examination of adjacent tumuli, and the discovery of rude pottery, chipped flints, and other fragments, plainly indicate an early British, if not a pre-historic period.

HACKFALL.



DO THOSE who are gladdened by the works of Nature, and by a ramble in an umbrageous retreat, there cannot be afforded a richer treat than a trip to Hackfall. It is distant seven miles from Ripon and eighteen from Harrogate. It is a sufficient recommendation to know that its beauty was commemorated by Gilpin; and that Pennant, who had seen much, and generally saw everything well, styled it "one of the most picturesque scenes in the north of England."

This peculiar character is occasioned by the expanding embouchure of a precipitous glen, that guides a leaping stream, opposite a grand sweep of the river Yore, where it ploughs its way at the bottom of a deep and densely wooded ravine. Naked and rifted scars create, apart from their intrinsic majesty, a charming contrast by their protrusion from the long sylvan steeps; while simple erections, artfully contrived and judiciously distributed, blend, as far as fiction may, the associations that gather around the ruined arch and broken tower.

The entrance to the woods is by a simple wicket, found immediately after leaving the village of Grewelthorpe, on the side of the road to Masham. The little rivulet, gurgling over its stony bed, accompanies our declining path, until joined by the Alum-spring gliding noiselessly through the woods on the brae side, though blemished by the artificial character of its mossy channel. The path is continued to the river; but we cross the burn, and, forgetting the steep ascent of the glen, in the diversity of prospect which every footstep acquires, surmount the wooded vale at "Mowbray Castle;" where the view extends uninterruptedly from our feet, to the long range of accliving land that shelters the town of Richmond.

We sink by slow gradations to the high bank of the river, passing reluctantly each recurring prospect of its waters and peering down gullies that headlong torrents have ploughed in the steep brae side. Having thus attained the extreme southern point, screened only by slender boughs from the perilous stream, we may enjoy the seclusion of the dell, by winding down the long terraces that have been laboriously hewn athwart the impending scar. High, over-arching, boughs have entwined their grisly roots among the bare bleak rocks, and often may be observed, protruding themselves, at considerable distances, from the parent stem.

After a short stroll by the river—interrupted offensively by the scraggy plantation that has superseded the ancient woods on the further bank—we cross the burn that accompanied our early walk, and embrace the opportunity of rest, and restorative appliances, at “Fisher’s Hall.” From this little grot—formed chiefly of petrifications collected in the grounds—the river, rolling on under the sombre hill, attracts, from its proximity, at least, undivided attention, until a glance—perhaps casually and at departure—discloses, in the contrary direction, two rills stealing down the mossy rocks, embosomed in verdant shade. “Mowbray Point” and “Castle” crown, at a considerable elevation, the sylvan canopy; but much of their beauty is lost in the assimilation of the objects.

Having crossed the dell of the “Town-beck,” and turned away from the river, we halt in the solitude of the woods, to view, from a rustic bower, a rill skipping amid tall graceful stems; and—in another direction—down a lofty avenue, the ruin on “Mowbray Point,” relieved only by the clouds.

As we seek the brow of the impending hill, various distant prospects of the country beyond Masham object themselves, even to a careless eye; until, having gained the jutting brow, a foretaste of the coming prospect of the far-famed vale of York is seen peeping through the trees. Yet, another glimpse, and a few hurried paces more, and the long expected gratification appears, in all its grandeur and beauty, at “Mowbray Point.”

From the abyss at one's feet—where black waters sleep in cavernous gloom—the eye rises, joyously, to the bold massy foreground of deep woods and sweeping torrents, to meads and cornfields, and forests, and an interminable succession of flood and fell—bewildered amid the myriad shapes and shades inextricably woven into their web ; nor dreams of the immensity of that gorgeous expanse until the faint blue lines mingle with the Hambleton hills, and it finds the amplitude that converges to its vision comprehends the sixty miles that intervene between the towers of York and the estuary of the Tees.

To detail, then, to strangers, the numberless objects that may be observed, would be both unnecessary and unavailing. Yet, it may detain many a lingerer to know that, where the twin towers of Tanfield rise by the gleaming stream, the last home of the great Marmions is canopied by the one ; and that the chivalry of the north have approached the halls of Fitzhugh through the other ; that in the gabled pile to the right, “ Old Norton ” mused on the treason that has immortalised his name ; and that at Topcliffe—receding further from the view—the regal hearted Percys enjoyed a retirement from the world, until the avenging hand of Elizabeth entailed misery and ruin on the representative of their race ; that—still beyond—towers Craike, the embattled patrimony of the sainted Cuthbert ; and—turning quickly aside—that Northallerton, forgetful of the stately palace of the bishops of Durham, and looking upon the plain of the Battle of the Standard, nestles at the left of the mountain ridge ; and that, glancing over the Priory of Mountgrace, and Harlsey the stronghold of the Strangways, and Whorlton of the Meinells and the Darcies, and Stokesley of the Baliols and the Eures, Roseberry rears its conical peak among the clouds ; while, still beyond, the high lands of Eston die into a line of gleaming light, that may, reasonably, be deemed to be the ocean.

Few having looked on so much beauty, would now desire further entertainment. The path favours our return, and by a circuitous route, that agreeably mitigates our transition, we presently regain the lanes and fields.

WATH.



ORTH-EAST from Ripon lies, at a distance of about four miles, the parish of Wath, and comprises within its limits the townships of Wath, Melmerby, Norton Conyers, and Middleton Quernhow. The population is about 650. In the first-mentioned township is a village with the parish church; in the second is a still larger village; in the third is an ancient mansion, formerly the residence of the late Sir Bellingham Graham, bart., and now the property, by purchase, of Viscount Downe; and in the fourth township is a small village, and on its picturesque green there is a dilapidated manor house, chiefly of seventeenth century architecture. Norton has derived the additional name of Conyers from Adam Coigniers (son of Roger, lord of Hutton Conyers, near Ripon) whose mother was Margaret, daughter and sole heir of Richard Norton, of Norton, and who called himself Norton. He lived in the time of Edward II. The property continued in the possession of this family until the time of Queen Elizabeth. Richard Norton, son of the above Adam Conyers, *alias* Norton, was made chief justice of the common pleas in 1413; his grandson, Sir John Norton, who was a knight of the bath, perhaps erected some portion of the present mansion, in the time of Henry VII. Richard Norton, the last of the family who owned the estate, having taken a conspicuous part in the rash insurrection of 1570-1, was attainted, and died an exile in Spanish Flanders. He was the father of a very numerous family of eight sons and eleven daughters, and one of his descendants, Sir Fletcher Norton, was created Lord Grantley in 1782. The crown sold the estate of Norton Conyers to Sir Richard Musgrave (*temp.* James I.) from whose son it passed by purchase into the Graham family. The sepulchral brasses of several of the Nortons

are in the chapel of S. John the Baptist, in Wath church. Here are also several memorials of the Grahams.

The property of Wath township has descended to the Marquess of Ailesbury from the family of the Marmions, possessors also of West Tanfield, in the church of which parish a remarkable collection of their monuments may be seen. The parish church is situated at the extreme east end of Wath-street, within a few paces of the ford (*Vada*, whence the name of Wath) which traversed a once deep, treacherous, and extensive marsh. This ford was protected in Roman, and probably in early British, times by a moated earthwork, remains of which are visible on the north-east side of the churchyard. The first church was erected by the Anglo-Saxons, and was dedicated to St. Oswald. Fragments of its sculptured stones were found during the recent restoration. In the troublous times which preceded the Norman invasion, the structure was reduced to ruins out of which arose a second church, in the twelfth century, dedicated to S. Mary the Virgin. Traces of it existed until recently in a south doorway of Norman architecture which was too crushed and shattered to be preserved. When the Early-English, Early-Decorated, and Perpendicular styles prevailed, the church underwent extensive alterations. In the first-mentioned period the chancel was greatly enlarged; in the second, A.D. 1332, a chapel or south transept, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, was founded and erected by John de Appleby, rector of the parish; and towards the close of the eighteenth century the nave windows were altered, and a vestry was added on the north side of the chancel. The attention of visitors is particularly directed to the curious Anglo-Saxon sculptures, and to the fragments of stone coffin lids, bearing portions of floriated crosses of early thirteenth century work, which have been collected and preserved.

The tower was erected in 1812, in place of a dilapidated steeple. It now contains five bells, three of which were cast in 1776, by Henry Harrison, during the incumbency of Cuthbert Allanson, rector, Peter Preston and John Wood being churchwardens.



BRIMHAM ROCKS.

“Nature here,
 Wantoned as in her prime, and played at will
 her virgin fancies,
 Wild above rule or art.”

PARADISE LOST.



HIS interesting and probably unique place of resort is generally visited, either by following the road that leads from Ripon to Studley ; or by a direct drive from Harrogate—a road formerly all but impassable, but now in fair condition. But the pedestrian may find it advantageous to alight at Dacre Banks station, from whence passing through the old village, he may enjoy a ramble up the moor.

The mighty hand of Nature has seldom left a more magnificent scene. Afar off, the swelling precipice seems crowned by the wreck of a long desolated city. At a nearer view, the grim and hideous forms defy all discrimination and definition ; and, at length, when standing among them, our uncontrollable impression continues to be of perplexity and astonishment.

Though, doubtless, taken advantage of by the aborigines of our country, for the purposes of worship, ordeal, or other public ceremonies ; still, it is far, very far into the history of the crust of our world, that we must look for any explanation

of the formation of these rocks and their subsequent configuration. Natural causes, and those greatest in power and grandest in result, will alone account for these stupendous monuments of ages prior to our ken. Deposited in deep, rough water, the loose sandy sediment, after long periods of time, became masses of rough red grit, which, being not strictly stratified, though partially so, were the result of what is known as "false bedding." They were thus peculiarly liable to disintegration by water. "The rocks on the ridge of Brimham owe their forms almost entirely to the action of the sea during the Glacial period, at which time Brimham stood out as a little island, with its cliff facing the west. Frost and rain have, indeed, subsequently modified their shapes, but their effect has been very slight, and the rocks are now very much in the same condition as they were when the Glacial sea finally left them. Some of the rocks are split perpendicularly, as if the bed below had been washed away, and the rock, settling down, had broken into two or four across a ridge or point. Most of the rocks exhibit a remarkable series of horizontal grooves, from one to three feet in breadth, which may have been worn away by the action of sheets of ice, a foot or so in thickness. Again, many are perched one upon the other, a position which may be accounted for by the waste of the rocks around them, leaving the harder or less exposed ones in these singular situations."

These rocks are, in short, but the remains of one vast and continuous bed of mill-stone grit, which covered the moor, and which, by water, by weather, and various other constant natural causes has been, slowly but surely, during the long course of many ages, consumed and corroded. The coarse sandy dust which is scattered around every block shows positively this certain work of disintegration.

"They are spread over a space extending sixty acres; and the whole group, from the vast extent and bulk of its component parts, will afford a striking proof of the supremacy of Nature, in her operations, over the most gigantic efforts of art; for Brimham, could it be transported to Salisbury Plain, would reduce Stonehenge itself to a poor and pigmy miniature."

and 5 ft. thick, has been hurled from the summit, and remains, rent asunder, on the plain below. We are now required to descend to the base of the crag on which we have been standing, and pass two stones termed the **DRUID'S** and **WHALE'S HEAD**.

After ups and downs and scrambles through a most rugged pass, we emerge on the moor below the vertical face of the rock, whose shattered and contorted forms may here be surveyed to advantage. By and by the **FISH-MOUTH**, **FROG**, and **MONKEY'S HEAD ROCKS**, present themselves; and, near these, a large block of grit has the appearance of a piece of mounted ordnance, pointing to the west.

A little to the east is a stupendous mass, which has been riven and disjointed, from top to bottom, into three main parts, leaving an hiatus of about four feet wide; exhibiting, on the opposite faces, such an exact and particular conformity of lineaments, as to demonstrate that they were once united, and formed together one huge compact block.

It will, ere now, doubtless have been observed that cylindrical apertures occur in many of the rocks, and of different diameters. Some perforate the craggy mass entirely; others reach only a few feet. Two of them, called the **CANNON ROCKS**, which the visitor will now approach, are exceedingly remarkable. The diameter of their perforation is about 12 in., which almost continues uniform from end to end, a space of about thirty feet.

The **CROWN ROCK** is next shown, resembling the outwork of a dismantled castle. An opening in the north side is called the **DRUID'S OVEN**; and in the south is a cavity, shrewdly termed by the guide—with a significant glance at the dubious ascent—the **Courting or Kissing Chair**. Here, too, is exhibited a stone to which a freak of nature has given the form of a **SPHINX'S HEAD**. But the imagination tires of conjuring up so many shapes; for almost every stone that forms the rude grandeur of Brimham, is capable of being converted into the similitude of some natural or artificial object. Elevated on the southernmost range of crags, is a stupendous **Rocking Stone**, conjectured to weigh above an hundred tons, and visible even

from Harrogate and the surrounding country. The rich and varied scene which may be enjoyed from the summit of this Rocking Stone, will amply repay the trouble, if it does not sometimes enhance the pleasure, of its ascent. On the west, a glorious prospect may again be viewed of the Vale of Nidd. To the south, Harrogate, Harlow-hill tower, and other conspicuous places present themselves. In the distant and fading landscape, on the banks of the Yore, may be seen Newby park and hall, near Ripon ; while many other interesting objects, which are pointed out by the guide, will be observed in the immediate foreground. Turning to the north-east, St. Michael's Mount again meets the eye, rearing its venerable and sylvan-crested head from woods that embosom the majestic pile of Fountains, and many a scene worthy of a pilgrimage.

The monks of Fountains held the manor of Brimham to the time of the dissolution of their house, in 1539, when it came, with the other rich possessions of that great monastery, to the hands of the crown. It was soon after granted out ; and, after passing through several hands, came to the Nortons, of Grantley, by whose representative, the Right Hon. Fletcher Lord Grantley of Markenfield, it is with the chief estate there, at present possessed.



NEWBY HALL.



THE seat of Lady Mary Vyner, is situated on the northern bank of the Yore about four miles from Ripon, and thirteen from Harrogate, commanding beautiful views of the surrounding country. The house was built about the year 1705, by Sir Edward Blacket, at an expense of 32,000*l*. The situation was chosen, and the design made, by Sir Christopher Wren. The two wings, one of which contains the Statue Gallery, which was built by Mr. Weddell, and the Dining Room by Earl de Grey. On each side of the portico are two dogs, executed in Portland stone, copied from Alcibiades' dogs at Duncombe Park.

In the ENTRANCE HALL is an excellent organ ; on the front of which is a fawn holding a sphinx ; and on the top, a lion, with a Cupid on his back, playing on a lyre. Here is a picture of St. Margaret, copied from Annibal Carracci ; a fine landscape with a group of cattle, by Rosa di Tivoli.

The GREAT STAIRCASE is adorned with two fine columns of beautiful Cipollini marble, with pilasters of the same ; a large table of Sicilian jasper, upon a frame, richly carved and gilt ; a picture of Judith shewing the head of Holofernes to the people, by Calibresi. On each side is a bas-relief, one representing Pope Antoninus Pius, and the other the Triumph of Aurelian ; a large portrait of William Weddell, Esq., by Baptista Battoni.

The LIBRARY contains a valuable collection of books, and is admired for the richness of the painting. The ceiling is supported by four fluted pillars, with enriched Corinthian capitals, and divided into compartments, superbly painted with subjects of ancient mythology, by Zucchi.

The STATUE GALLERY has been long admired, and is

allowed to be one of the best private collections in the kingdom. The gallery is divided into three apartments, and the Statues are arranged in the following order :—

FIRST APARTMENT. Faun—Bacchus and Satyr—Geta—Ganymede and an Eagle—Galatea—two Urns—Epicurus—a bust of Hercules on an antique tripod, decorated with basso relievos, representing various figures of Bacchantes—Silenus.

SECOND APARTMENT. Female, unknown—Brutus—Bust of Caracalla—a sitting Muse—Septimus Severus—Venus—Female, unknown—Bust of Caligula—Minerva—Alexander—Bust of Minerva—Faustina—Jupiter.

THIRD APARTMENT. A Terminus—Man, unknown—Augustus—a Dacian king, on a sarcophagus—statue of Apollo—sitting figure of Marius, on a sarcophagus—two busts in basalt—antique Tripod, on which is a stork with a snake in his beak—an antique Tripod, with the bust of the late W. Weddell, Esq., by Nollkens—a bust of Lucilla—Negro's head in basalt—a boy playing a pipe—large antique Bath of veined marble, grey and white, capable of containing 200 gallons ; it rests on four feet representing the paws of a lion, with a lion's head sculptured above each.

The statue most esteemed in this collection is one in the attitude of the Medicean Venus, formerly known by the name of the Barberini Venus. "It stands five feet one inch and a half high. Both arms, and the right leg, from the knee, are modern ; the head having been lost, is replaced by a beautiful head of Pudicita, of a suitable size, the veiled part having been worked to the resemblance of hair by the sculptor, Pacilli. This fine fragment had remained for a long time in the Barberini Palace, from whence it was purchased by Gavin Hamilton, who exchanged it with Pacilli. Jenkins possessed himself of it, and found a purchaser in Mr. Weddell. The antique parts are of genuine Greek performance, and it has been considered as the best statue of Venus which has hitherto been brought to England. A bracelet is marked out on the upper part of the right arm. The marble is beautifully compact, and of a yellowish hue, retaining the ancient polish."

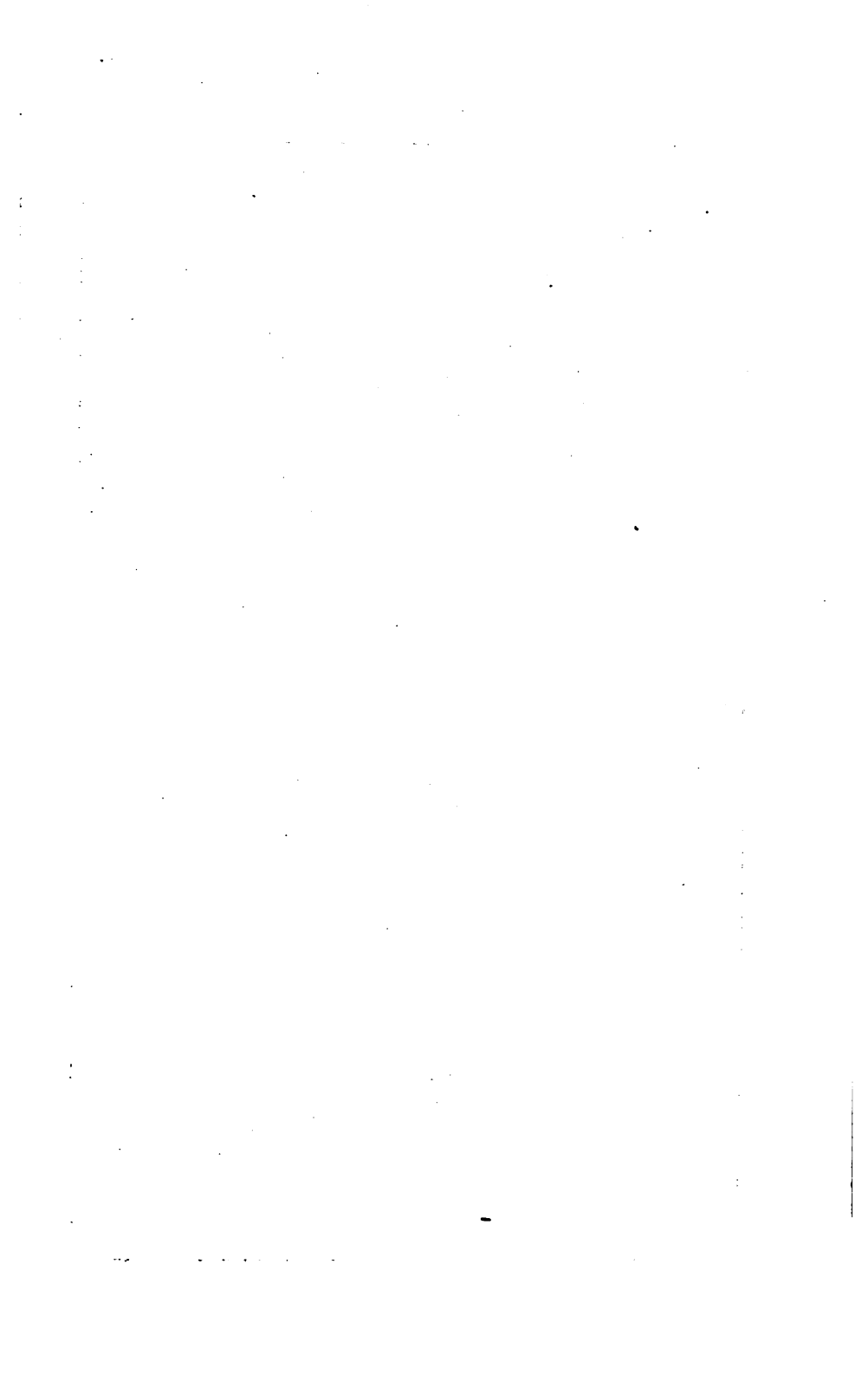
In the Ante-room there is a choice collection of China, and a number of curiosities; a portrait of Sir Charles Lucas, and other oil-paintings.

The DRAWING ROOM, which is hung with tapestry of the celebrated Gobelin's manufactory, at Paris, cannot be surpassed for richness and beauty. The subjects are, Venus rising out of the sea—Venus requesting Vulcan to complete the arms of Æneas—Vertumnus and Pomona—Diana and Endymion. The ceiling is divided into compartments, elegantly wrought and richly gilt, in which are the Four Seasons—Diana accompanied by Nymphs—Venus and the Graces—Phaeton attended by the Hours, all exquisitely painted by Zucchi.

In the DINING ROOM, which is 38 feet by 24, built in 1808, is a very handsome chimney-piece, of black and veined marble, and three large alabaster urns, and niches. Here are also portraits of the late Lord de Grey, his father, and his grandfather, a large picture of the Robinson Family, and a few other choice portraits.

THE CHURCH,

Dedicated to "Christ the Consoler," near to Skelton, is very picturesquely situated amid the trees, not far from the principal lodge gates of Newby Hall, and consists of a clerestoried nave, north and south aisles, chancel, tower with spire at the east end of the north aisle, and south porch, erected in the style of the thirteenth century. The first and most striking view which the visitor obtains is that presented to him as he leaves the village street and approaches the church from the south-east point. His eye rests upon a sculptured figure of "Christ the Consoler," who, from under a canopy in the gable over the east window, is represented bending forward, as it were, to meet the parishioners, as they come along the church path, laden with sins and sorrows and troubles, and shewing His wounded hands, seems to say, "Come unto Me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Cast all your care, all your anxieties, upon Me, for behold the tokens





SKELTON CHURCH, FROM THE SOUTH-EAST.

of that love which I have shewn for you." The same comforting and reassuring thought fills the heart, as it seems to be materially expressed in all parts of this magnificent, lovely, and most successful church. This edifice is a memorial of the late Frederick Grantham Vyner (the youngest son of Lady Mary Vyner), who was murdered by Greek Brigands in May 1870; the foundation stone at the north east corner of the building bears this inscription:—"In Memory of Frederick Grantham Vyner, this church is built by his Mother, and dedicated to Christ the Consoler. This stone was laid May 17th, 1871."

Before entering, the visitor is recommended to inspect the exterior. By the approach from the village the chancel will be first examined. A five-light window of harmonious design occupies the whole width of the east end, and is surmounted by a crocketed label, whose finial supports the figure of Christ above alluded to. On each side of the gable are two massive buttresses, adorned with armorial bearings. The gable is crowned with a cross. The north and south side of this portion of the church are divided into three bays by buttresses, each bay has a two-light window, the spandrils in the tracery are adorned with very fine early English foliage. The Priest's door is on the south side. The whole is surmounted by a block and dental cornice with gurgoyles. Upon each stage of the chancel buttresses is a shield with the armorial bearings of families connected with that of the noble foundress.

The tower and spire at the north side of the church cannot fail to captivate even a careless observer; the tower is of four stages. The bell chamber in the fourth stage is lighted by two elaborate windows on each side, and from the block and dental cornice above springs a spire to the altitude of sixty-six feet, whose surface is adorned with three bands of tracery; at the angles are four octagonal pinnacles adorned with tracery at their base, and terminating in elaborate finials. Passing round by the tower to the west end, the visitor's attention will be engaged by the fine rose window, and the sculptures, introduced at four points of the outer circle, representing the ages of man:

—youth, manhood, decrepitude, and the last moments of life. Below the window is a blind trefoiled arcade.

The porch has a foliated and richly-moulded outer doorway, over which, in the gable, under a triple canopy, is a beautiful sculptured representation of the Good Shepherd, bearing a tender lamb on His shoulders, and followed by His sheep. Within the porch are female heads in high relief, that on the east side blindfolded, and turned westwards, representing the synagogue; and that on the west side, crowned, and directing her gaze towards the altar, representing the christian church. On the boss of the groining is the shield of Lady Mary Vyner, the foundress. The inner doorway is deeply moulded, and the hollows contain open flowers and delicate leaves.

INTERIOR.—The nave is of four bays, and is 64 feet long by 19 feet wide, and 42 feet high. The piers which support the nave have moulded bases, annulets and caps; in front Irish black marble banded shafts are carried up the face of the clerestory walls, and terminate in corbels supporting the tie-beams. These corbels are sculptured to represent, on the north side, infancy, boyhood, and old age; and, on the opposite side, childhood, manhood, and mature age. The arches of the nave are adorned with the tooth ornament, and the span-drills are filled in with cinquefoils, adorned with foliage cusps. Above is a noble clerestory of twenty-one lights, arranged in triplets; a continuous arcade, whose arches spring off moulded capitals, supported by black marble shafts, enriches this part of the structure. The division of each bay is marked by the shafts which rest on the base of the nave piers. The tie-beams and panelled waggon roof, as well as the aisle roofs, also panelled, are of yellow pine. The aisle walls have a trefoiled arcade along their whole length, with black marble shafts, such as those in the clerestory. At the four angles of the nave are the evangelistic symbols, sculptured as terminations to the labels of the nave arches.

The chancel, rich in various coloured marbles, stained glass, and painted decorations, will arrest the attention of every visitor. It is raised one step from the level of the nave floor,

and is approached through a deeply moulded arch, whose piers of clustered columns, with charming early English capitals, produce a very beautiful effect. Over the chancel arch is an elaborate sculpture representing our Lord's Ascension; and in the soffit of the arch are angels with upraised wings on Jacob's ladder. In the spandrils are two shields, that on the north side bearing the armorials of the present occupier of the See of Ripon, impaling the arms of the Diocese; and that on the south side belonging to the foundress.

The east window, as well as the windows on the north and south side, have a double suite of tracery, supported on marble shafts, which lend a richness and elegance to the east end of the church. Laterally it is divided into three bays, the first bay on each side being devoted to stalls for the family of the foundress; the rest have an arcading on black marble columns, with trefoil heads; rich diaper work is introduced above this arcading. The inner tracery of the east window is very fine, and in the spandrils of the sub-arches are sculptured figures of angels bearing censers. The tracery of the other windows are similarly treated, having black marble banded shafts, moulded bases and capitals. The clustered shafts of different coloured marbles with exquisitely carved capitals, divide the bays, and support the stone groining; at the intersection of the diagonal ribs are carved bosses—the ceiling being cemented for painting. The floor is laid with encaustic tiles, and the furniture and other fittings are in perfect harmony with this magnificent structure.

The lowest stage of the tower forms the vestry, from which there is access to the pulpit through a doorway at the east end of the north aisle. Over the vestry is the organ chamber, and the organist is placed in a projecting loft or gallery, supported by a corbel richly sculptured with foliage and grotesque animals.

In the west wall, under the rose window, is a trefoil-headed arcade with black marble shafts, running the width of the nave, above is a foliated cornice, and under the string course is the following text, carved in thirteenth century characters: "There is one God and one mediator between God and men,

the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself a ransom for all." (Taken from 1. Tim., ii. 5). The seats are upon a wood floor, which is on the same level with the tile pavement.

The font, which is at the west end of the south aisle, and the pulpit, both of which are exquisitely beautiful, are of marble.

STAINED GLASS.—The aisle windows illustrate the Parables of our Lord, and the clerestory contain full length figures of the Prophets. In the centre of the rose window is Christ the Consoler, and around him are the various conditions of life. Chancel.—The east window has its five lights filled with stained glass, the centre compartment representing the crucifixion, and Christ bearing the cross, and on each side are the various types of that event from the Old Testament history, viz. : Noah's sacrifice, Manoah's sacrifice; Isaac bearing the wood, and Abraham's sacrifice; the brazen serpent, and the Widow of Sarepta; Moses smiting the rock, and Abel's sacrifice. In the centre of the upper tracery is the figure of Christ the Consoler. Underneath is the inscription, "Built by Lady Mary Vyner in memory of her son Frederick Grantham Vyner, murdered by Brigands 1870." The chancel windows on the north and east side contain scenes from the life of our Lord, and the types of the events. They are arranged in pairs, each light containing the type and the antitype. These windows are memorials to different members of the foundress's family. On the north side, Henrietta Frances, Countess de Grey; Thomas Phillip, Earl de Grey; Hon. Frederick W. Robinson. On the south side, Henry Vyner; Reginald Vyner; Theodosia Harriet, Marchioness of Northampton. The whole of the stained glass is by Saunders and Co., London, the cartoons having been prepared by Mr. F. Weekes.

The architect of this costly structure is Mr. W. Burgess, London; the builder, Mr. J. Thompson, Peterborough; the clerk of the works, Mr. Sier, Kentish Town; the sculptor, Mr. T. Nicholes.

The description of this church must necessarily be somewhat short; but a more minute description and an engraving of the structure will be given in a special work.

BOROUGHBRIDGE.

THIS small old town is situated on the south bank of the river Yore, on the great north road formerly called Ermine-street. In the old coaching days it enjoyed some importance, being on the high road to the north; now, a few mills and a limited navigation are its only signs of busy life. It derives its name from a bridge of wood erected over the Yore, soon after the Norman Conquest, called Burgh-Bridge, in lieu of one that crossed the river opposite Milby. This place became a borough in the reign of queen Mary, in 1553, and sent two members to parliament, but was disfranchised by the passing of the reform bill, on the 7th of June, 1832.

This town was, with Aldborough, and the manor and castle of Knaresborough, in the 15th Henry III., granted to Hubert de Burgh; but was forfeited in the same reign by his son, for aiding Simon de Montfort, at the battle of Evesham. This place remained in the possession of the crown until the reign of Edward II., when it was given by that monarch to his favourite, Piers Gavestone.

It was here that, in 1321, the unfortunate prince Thomas, earl of Lancaster, with some of the nobility, disgusted with the royal favourites, the Spencers, made a stand against the forces of his nephew, Edward II., but was taken prisoner by Sir Andrew de Harcla, who, insensible to his entreaties and solicitude, after inflicting every possible indignity that cruelty could suggest, mounted him on a lean horse, and brought him before the king, who, without any form of trial, ordered his head to be struck off, on an eminence near Pontefract. One of his partisans, the powerful John de Bohun, earl of Hereford, in passing over the bridge, made of wood, was run through with a spear by a soldier who was hidden below. A handsome column of banded shafts with capitals, which formerly stood in the

market-place, but has since been removed into a similar position at Aldborough, may have been erected as a memorial of these events.

The old church, which stood in unenclosed ground in the centre of the town, was taken down in 1851. It showed remains of late Saxon and Early Norman work, and was said to date about 1100. This vacant ground is now enclosed, and in the centre a fountain, supplied by an Artesian well, is erected to the memory of A. S. Lawson, Esq.

In 1852 a new church, designed by Mallinson and Healey, of Bradford, and erected on a new site, was opened. It is dedicated to St. James, and accommodates 510 persons, without the chancel. The outline of the tower of the old church is preserved in the present design. A ring of six bells, cast by Mears and Co., was presented by the Baroness Burdett Coutts. The clock is by Potts, of Leeds; and the organ by Hill and Son, London. Excellent schools were built in 1856, and a commodious parsonage house in 1862. There is also a new Wesleyan chapel, more capacious than elegant.

THE DEVIL'S ARROWS, which consist of three large masses of gritstone, are on the south-west side of the town. In Leland's time there were four; but, in the seventeenth century, one of them was either pulled down, or fell to the ground. A portion of it now forms the foundation of a foot-bridge over a small brook. Those which remain are placed at unequal distances from each other, the central one being 199 feet from that on the north, and the one to the south 360 feet from the central obelisk. The tops are seemingly split and furrowed by the stealing hand of Time. The tallest (the central one) is 30 feet 6 inches from the bottom, about six feet of which are buried in the ground. Its greatest circumference is 16 feet. The others are of nearly the same dimensions. In 1709, Mr. Morris, for forty years vicar of Aldborough, caused the ground to be opened, round the middlemost of these obelisks, nine feet in width. At first was found a good soil about a foot deep, and then a course of rough stones, of several kinds, but principally large pebbles, laid in a bed of coarse grit and clay,

and so for four or five courses underneath, one upon another, round about the pyramid—in all probability to keep it upright: yet they all seem to incline a little to the south-east. Under the stones was a very strong clay, so hard that the spade could not penetrate it. This was nearly two yards from the surface of the earth; and a little lower was the bottom of the stone, resting flat upon the clay. As much of the stone as was within the ground, was a little thicker than what appeared above, and had the marks of a *first dressing* upon it; it was a *taxata non perdolata ferro*. The nearest quarry from which they can have been hewn is at Plumpton, near Harrogate. Why they were erected is a matter of much doubt. They may have been memorial stones of either events or celebrated persons, long since forgotten; they may have played a part in Druidical rites; they may have been *stationes* in Roman celebrations; or, probably, *metæ* in chariot races. But the antiquary will naturally compare them with other monoliths in our island, especially the “Rudstone,” on the Yorkshire wolds.

KIRBY HILL.

The antiquary should, by all means, turn aside and wander for about a mile north from Boroughbridge to visit the interesting little church of All Saints, Kirby Hill. In 1870 it was skilfully and cautiously restored by Sir G. G. Scott. In the course of the works remains of the Saxon and Norman, the Early English, and the Decorated and Perpendicular periods, were clearly made out and have been scrupulously preserved. It is a fine example of restoration as it should be done. The east window has some fine modern glass, by Hardman. The organ is a good specimen of one suited to a village church, and is by Hill and Son.

ALDBOROUGH.

ALDBURGH, or Aldborough, so called by the Normans, is the Iseur of the ancient Britons, and the Isurium of the Romans. This once celebrated city, which has, ever since the days of Leland, arrested the attention and engaged the particular notice of British antiquaries, is now sunk into a small village. It is situate on the south bank of the river Yore, about half a mile from Boroughbridge, and comprises about 107 houses, and a parish church, dedicated to St. Andrew. The houses, although much detached from each other, are chiefly within the walls of the old city, with the exception of one, which has been partly erected upon the wall itself. It was the metropolis of the Brigantes, and many British princes resided here. Agricola, after subduing the Brigantes in the year 80, fixed his head quarters here. In 870 it had grown to such importance as to attract the fury of the Danes, who, after cruelly murdering the inhabitants, burnt the city to the ground. The Norman conqueror, by diverting the road and removing the bridge over the Yore to Boroughbridge, seriously injured its position. In the time of the Romans it was defended by a strong wall, having a circumference of 2177 yards, and enclosing an area of 60 acres. Two principal roads, the one from the south, Ermine-street, and the other intersecting it at right angles, and still called the Roman road, passed through its centre.

Wherever the spade has been used for any purpose, abundant remains have been laid bare in and about various cottages; and a most interesting museum is collected at the manor house. The principal of these are tessellated and mosaic pavements of great size and beauty. One of the finest is the floor of a Basilica, with a Greek inscription in blue glass; and another has, as its centre, a lion rampant. Numbers of coins, mostly brass, though some few are silver, have been found. They

represent Constantine, Carausius, Maximilian, Dioclesian, Valerian, Severus, Aurelian, as well as Faustina and Julia. Signet stones, Samian ware, mortaria, iron knives, deer horns, bone pins, circular tickets for amusements, dice, spoons, fibulæ, and various domestic refuse have turned up, to tell a story of life and death within these walls.

In 1794, the foundations of the city wall being laid open for the purpose of procuring stone, the breadth was discovered to be about 15 feet, and the depth nearly of the same dimensions. The first seven feet were composed of rough grit, mixed with lime and sand; the other eight consisted of large pebbles, or paving stones, laid in a bed of blue clay, and interstices filled up with hard cement of lime, sand, and gravel. Near the foundation were discovered part of a sacrificing vessel, pieces of urns, several pieces of millstone grit, horns of deer sawed off, the head of a cow in brass, and another supposed to be the figure of Isis.

In 1811, a plain Roman monument was found, on which is the following inscription:—

DM
FIL CVIE
COLUGS
KARIS
C. M. P.
F. CVR.

Edward II. granted the extraordinary privilege to the inhabitants of trying, condemning, and executing criminals—and the scene of action, it appears, was Borough-hill. The gallows was afterwards removed to a place called Gibbet-hill.

The family of Aldburgh resided here as proprietors for many ages. The last of the male line remained here till 1727.

The church, mostly fourteenth century work, seems to have been built out of the remains of the Roman town. It is a regular and substantial edifice, evincing the munificence and liberality of its founders, and, in latter times, the attention and good taste of a wealthy resident family. It consists of a nave with side aisles, chancel, and tower at the west end. The

architecture is of the Perpendicular style. Octagonal piers, supporting pointed arches, and finished with most grotesque masks, divide the nave from the aisles. A figure of Mercury is conspicuous in the wall of the vestry; and in the churchyard, on a stone, is cut in relief, the bust of a woman in a Saxon habit, in the attitude of prayer.

In the north aisle, placed against the wall, is a large and perfect figure in brass, of a young knight, in plate armour and gorget of link mail, with the hands uplifted, and holding a human heart. On his breast and shield are the arms of Aldburgh:—*Argent a fesse dancettè, between three crosslets botone azure.* Under his feet is inscribed—WILL'S DE: ALDEBURGH. Another memorial of the Aldburghs was found inverted in the south aisle during the late repairs of the church. It bears the following inscription:—

ORATE PRO A'I'A WILLI ALDBURGH ARMIGI, QUI OBIIT XV
DIE APRILI,
ANNO D'NI MILLIMO CCCCLXXV, ANIME P'PICIETUR DEUS
AMEN.

Running round the oak pulpit there is:—PASCE OVES: PASCE
AGNOS.

In the tower are six bells. The two oldest have the following sentences on a fillet near the top of each:—

ORA PRO NOBIS SANCTE TOMA,
BENEDICTI SIT NOMEN DOMINI.

On the largest bell is inscribed:—

JESVS BE OVR SPEED. 1627.

Most of the windows are filled with modern stained glass.



NEW PUMP ROOM, SULPHUR WELL.

HARROGATE.

*Hæc resoluta senum confirmat membra trementum,
Et refovet nervos lotrix hæc lympha gelatos,
Huc infirma regunt baculis vestigia claudi,
Ingrati referunt baculis vestigia spretis.*

HOBBS, DE MIRABILIBUS PECCI.



ARROGATE, like most watering places of renown, had but an humble and obscure origin. In the earliest periods to which our written history extends it lay an undistinguished and probably untenanted spot in the forest of Knaresborough; and it was not until the emparkment of a portion of that great sylvan range at Haywra, that—from the road which led thither from the fortress on the Nidd—it became known as Haywra-gate.

As the time of the emparkment of Haywra is uncertain, so must be the designation of the road that led thither. In a charter granted by Richard Earl of Cornwall, about 1257, to the house of St. Robert at Knaresborough, there is mention of

the road which turns from that town towards "Heywra," and the application of sainted appellations to some of the springs at Harrogate, indicates that they—if not in their present efficacy—were observed during the mediæval period. Yet the huts that were scattered by the way-side might not, even in this century, have lost much of their humble character, if the occurrence of an accidental circumstance had not suddenly changed their fortune.

It was this: Captain William Slingsby, a younger brother of the family that for several centuries has resided at Scriven, about three miles from this place, visited, during the latter half of the sixteenth century, the waters of Sauveniere in Germany, and received benefit. On his return he observed, as too many have done, that he had left a remedy of equal efficacy at home;—was wise enough to avail himself of the benefit;—gratefully built a protection over the spring;—and spread the glad tidings of its utility among the marvelling population around.

While a series of cures were in performance, some of which, says Dr. Short, "are perhaps the greatest and most remarkable filed up in the authentic records of physic, down from Hippocrates to this day," Dr. Stanhope, an ingenious physician of York, discovered in 1631, at High Harrogate, another Chalybeate spring, to which, in distinction to the sulphur waters, he gave the name of the "Sweet Spa." In the year after, when he wrote his dissertation on the mineral waters near Knarborough—for, by that general designation, be it remembered, these springs at Harrogate were then, and long after, comprehended—the sulphur waters were rising in reputation, though they were chiefly frequented by the common people; and our author confessed "what are its inward uses we know not yet." It was fortunate, however, that in this absence of information, the merits of the sulphuretted springs forced themselves on attention; for a controversy soon after arose, touching the relative merits of the Scarborough and Harrogate Chalybeate waters; and, with the fate that has attended many once fashionable watering places, our spa might have become unfrequented and unregarded, had not the sulphur water retained its popularity.

With the social progress of the eighteenth century, Harrogate rose and prospered. Its accommodations increased with the domestic economy and civilization of the times, and the number of visitors with that accumulation of wealth, which commercial skill and enterprise had dealt to the hands of so many—until, at the present day, by the centralisation of many species of medicinal waters—the superiority of the most important class—the beauty of the surrounding country—and the diversity of amusements, Harrogate has become, and by its many undeveloped attractions and the permanent character of its excellencies, bids fair to remain, one of the most interesting, eligible, and beneficial watering places in the empire.

High and Low Harrogate form, as far as parochial matters and other greater local interests are concerned, two distinct villages, whose line of division, two brooks, is not obvious to the eye. The former is in the parish of Knaresborough, the other in that of Pannal; but, until the formation of the bishopric of Ripon, a more singular distinction prevailed; for the former was in the jurisdiction of the see of Chester—the latter in that of York.

The parishioners of High Harrogate attended divine service, by an inconvenient journey of three miles, until the year 1749, when, by the subscription of the interested parties, and a donation of 50*l.* from Lady Elizabeth Hastings, a chapel was erected. In 1831 it needed so much extension that its removal was deemed preferable, and the materials were alienated for the formation of "The Independent Chapel," near Prospect-place. The structure which succeeded it was built in the same year, and affords an accommodation of 1200 sittings, of which 800, designated by labels, are "free." Under the provisions of the Act, 58 Geo. III., c. 45, a district parish has very properly been assigned to this church. It was further enlarged by the addition of transepts and chancel in 1861. St. John's church, Bilton, erected at the cost of the late William Sheepshanks, Esq., was opened for divine service in 1856. It is an elegant and substantial specimen of Early-English architecture, designed by Sir George G. Scott, A.R.A., and will accommodate 600

hearers. St. Peter's church, Central Harrogate, was commenced in 1870. This is also a district parish.

Low Harrogate, which is three miles from its parish church, first obtained the benefit of a separate place of worship in 1824, when St. Mary's church was erected, after much exertion, aided by the commissioners of the million act. A chancel and other improvements were added in 1865. All Saints church, Harlow-hill, was opened for public worship in 1870, for the benefit of the outlying districts towards the west. It will accommodate about 217 hearers. There is a burial ground attached.

The dissenters have exhibited their wonted alacrity in providing spiritual instruction for the strangers of their several persuasions. The Wesleyan chapel, erected in 1824, in Chapel-street, proving too small for the increasing numbers of the society, was abandoned, and the present large and commodious structure built in the same street in 1861. The Congregational church is situate in Prospect-place. It is in the Decorated style of architecture, with a tower and spire 100 feet high, and was built in 1861. The United Methodist Free Church, near the railway station, has also a tower and spire. It was erected in 1865. The quakers built a meeting house in Chapel-street, in 1854. The primitive methodists erected a large and elegant chapel on Cheltenham Mount, in 1873. The inhabitants and visitors attached to the Romish faith perform their devotions in the spacious church in St. Robert's-street, built in 1873. The Harrogate cemetery, situate to the north of the town, was consecrated in 1864.

And now of the WATERS themselves. In a publication like the present, intended for general circulation, it is of course unavailing to dissertate on the component parts and application of waters, of which it is sufficient for the majority that they drink "in faith, nothing doubting." The chemist has had, already, the advantage of several careful and judicious observations and analyses; and to those who are driven hither more by necessity than pleasure, I would recommend, in the words of Dr. French, that they apply themselves to some experienced

physician, who shall be able to understand their constitution, distemper, and the nature and use of the waters themselves; that accordingly, as cause shall require, the more successful preparations may be administered, and the more effectual directions given.

THE TEWIT WELL,

on the common, to the east side of the Prince of Wales hotel, and near the Leeds and Harrogate road, has not only precedence of its companions, but of all similar waters in the county. Its history, which has been much garbled, is best conveyed in the original words of Dr. Dean's *Spadacrene Anglica*, published in 1626. "It was discovered first," says he, "about fifty years ago, by one Mr. William Slingsby, who had travelled in Germany in his younger years, seen and been acquainted with theirs; and as he was of an ancient family near the place, so he had fine parts, and was a capable judge. He lived sometime at a grange house near it; then removed to Bilton park, where he spent the rest of his days. He, using this water yearly, found it exactly like the German spaw. He made several tryals of it, then walled it about and paved it in the bottom with two large stone flags, with a hole in their sides for the free access of the water, which springs up only at the bottom through a chink or cranny left on purpose. Its current is always nearly the same, and is about the quantity of the Sauvenir, to which Mr. Slingsby thought it preferable, being more brisk and lively, fuller of mineral spirits, of speedier operation: he found much benefit by it. Dr. Tim. Bright, about thirty years ago (1596), first gave it the name of '*The English Spaw.*' Having spent some time at those in Germany, he was a judge of both, and had so good an opinion of ours that he sent many patients hither yearly, and every summer drank the waters upon the place himself. And Dr. Anthony Hunter, late physician of Newark-upon-Trent, often chided us physicians in York for not writing upon it, and deservedly setting it upon the wings of fame."

Though it has of late been indulged with the old cast-off dome from the Sulphur well, the memorable "English Spaw" still remains, after all the benefits it has conferred and all the praise it has received, in something like its pristine humility, and deserted, until lately, for those that have better advocates, and a more commodious position. For a trifling gratuity to the inmates of an adjacent cottage, the visitor may still enjoy the undiminished benefit that it offers, and test, in his own person, the truth of Dr. French's recommendation: that "it occasions the retention of nothing that should be evacuated, and, by relaxation, evacuates nothing that should be retained; that it dries nothing but what's too moist and flaccid, and heats nothing but what's too cold, and *e contra*; and that, 'tho' no doubt there are some accidents and objections to the contrary,' it makes the lean fat, the fat lean, cures the cholick, and melancholy, and the vapours;" and that—fair reader—"it cures *all* aches speedily, and *cheareth* the *heart*."

THE SWEET SPA.

In 1631, only five years after Dr. Dean had set the Tewit well "on the wings of fame," Dr. Stanhope discovered another chalybeate well, about a quarter of a mile from it, not far from the Plumpton and Wetherby road, and took "leave to advertise" the public of the same, in that now rare tract, styled "*Cures without Care, or a summons to all such as find little or no help by the use of Physick to repair to the Northern Spaw.*" It has the advantage of a more elevated and commanding situation than the Tewit well. It seems to have acquired distinction soon after its discovery; for, in 1656, great pains were taken to form a square terrace, sixty yards on each side, no vestiges of which remain. In 1786, Alexander, Lord Loughborough, who owned some property in the township, and was interested in the prosperity of Harrogate, generously erected a stone canopy over the spring, which was removed in 1842, when the present neat building was substituted.

THE OLD SULPHUR WELLS.

Though the sulphur waters engaged attention in the early part of the seventeenth century, and were then used, both internally and externally, it seems doubtful whether the well, now so justly celebrated, was much resorted to until the concluding period of the Commonwealth, when Dr. George Neale, of Leeds, a benevolent and enlightened man, applied himself to the promotion of their use, and the advancement of their condition, with a spirit that deserves a lasting memorial at the hands even of this distant generation. In a posthumous paper that has been published by Dr. Short, he thus records the preservation of the means by which thousands have been blessed : —“There are (*circ.* 1676), and were about twenty years ago, three springs close together, *very low and scarce of water, that all of them did not afford sufficient water for drinking and bathing.* Wherefore, for the convenience of the drinkers, I thought it convenient to take up the uppermost spring, which is weakest and slowest of them, and made a large basin to contain several hogsheads of water, and covered it with a large stone to preserve it from the sun and rain water ; *and for a week together we rammed its sides with clay* to prevent other springs from getting in. The event answered expectation : *for we had a fresh spring of much better and stronger water, which afforded as much in one hour now as it did in twenty-four before,* more loaded with the minerals than ever, and so of greater efficacy for either bathing or drinking.” It is a remarkable fact, in the impregnation of these waters, that the second spring, which has been generally covered up, is not half the strength of the first or chief well, though it is but a yard distant from it. The third, which is about 16ft. removed, though very potent, contains, like the weak well, a trace of sulphate of soda, which the old well does not. Being open to the public like the rest, it has been chiefly reserved for baths, and transmission to distant parts of the kingdom. To these three wells, an addition, very unwelcome at the time but very useful since, was made about a century ago, when a man, who, under the protection of a

lease from the earl of Burlington, had acquired a right of searching for minerals in the Forest of Knaresborough, pretended to dig for coal, where the three sulphur wells are situate. From this attempt, the innkeepers and others at Harrogate, who were interested in the preservation of the wells, persuaded him to desist by the payment of 100*l*. "Sulphur water, however," says the late bishop of Llandaff, who records the story, "had risen up where he had begun to dig: they enclosed the place with a little stone edifice, and, putting down a basin, made a fourth well."

In 1804 the principal well was distinguished by a large dome supported by pillars; and thus it remained, with some minor improvements, until 1842; when, in justice to the importance of the spa, and the proper and prudent conservation of its waters, the commissioners, under the Harrogate Improvement Act, resolved to enclose the springs in a reasonable and efficient manner. An octagonal pump room, of ample dimension and appropriate decoration, was erected from the design of Mr. Shutt, a native of Harrogate, and opened on the 23rd of July in that year; but that this laudable arrangement might not interfere with the means or inclination of those who could not or would not afford a trifling gratuity to the attendant, a pump—available under restrictions consequent only on the preservation of the water—is placed without the walls.

THE MONTPELLIER OR CROWN SULPHUR WELL,

About 200 yards east of the old wells, is private property. It was found in 1822, and is enclosed together with the saline chalybeate pump, connected with a spring at a small distance, in an elegant pump room. The public have the benefit of these powerful springs by a trifling subscription; obtaining also thereby the gratification of walking in the adjacent pleasure-ground.

In the autumn of 1835 the proprietor of the Crown hotel sunk a well on his premises, 82 ft. distant from the old sulphur well, which was supposed to be thereby seriously injured. He was, consequently, indicted under the provisions of the Knares-

borough Forest Enclosure Act : but before the arguments were concluded, consented to surrender the room which enclosed it to the use of the public, for whose use he was required also to put down a pump. The order of the court, which was also made a rule of the Court of King's Bench, enjoined that "the room be opened to the public from six in the morning until six in the evening, of each day, and that the defendant shall only use the pump and water in common with the rest of the public ;" though he was allowed to possess a key, apart from that used by the commissioners. He engaged also not to deepen any of the other wells on his premises.

THE KNARESBOROUGH, OR STARBECK SPA,

Is situate midway between Harrogate and Knaresbrough, and about 200 yards from the Starbeck station, on the north-eastern line of railway. It obtained notice at an early period, and was one of the three sulphur springs which Dr. Dean, in 1826, considered "worthy of the physician's observation." The subsequent improvement of the wells at Low Harrogate superseded its benefits, which—elsewhere—would have been invaluable ; and, in 1822, neglect and some degree of jealousy had so far combined, that its site was almost unknown. In that year the inhabitants of Knaresborough did justice to the valuable gift committed to their charge, by erecting an appropriate building over it, with a suite of baths, and a residence for the attendant. Its quality seems particularly adapted to delicate constitutions, and it has afforded relief when stronger waters have failed.

SALINE CHALYBEATE, OR ROYAL CHELTENHAM
PUMP ROOM.

The discovery of a water, which united the properties of a tonic, an aperient, and an alterative, was one of the greatest benefits that had occurred to Harrogate since the establishment of the old sulphur well. It was found, together with the adjacent chalybeate, by Mr. Oddy, in 1819, while searching for sulphur water to supply the baths ; and at the lower end of the little valley that has disclosed the chief wells of Low Har-

rogate. The former of these springs is now called the "Dr. Muspratt Chalybeate," and the latter the "Carbonate of Iron Spring." When the reputation of Harrogate became based on something more than the ephemeral attractions of a place of fashionable resort, the original pump-room was superseded by a spacious building, erected by the proprietor, Mr. Williams, in 1835. Not only the conservation of the water, but the amusement of its visitors is secured in this saloon, which is 100 feet long, 33 feet wide, and 27 feet high, for it affords the frequent enjoyment of the first musical talent in the kingdom; and other similar sources of refined pleasure. The appurtenant grounds are laid out with considerable effect, and afford—within limits more diversified than the site would induce many to suppose—a promenade of more than a mile in extent.

THE MONTPELLIER SALINE CHALYBEATE SPRING

was discovered, some years ago, in the gardens of the Crown hotel. It was not generally used for some time after; but is now supplied from a pump, adjoining that of the sulphuretted spring previously noticed, and is sometimes styled the Kissengen Spring.

There are several other springs, both sulphuretted and chalybeate, at Low Harrogate; but none require particular observation here.

HARLOW CARR SPRINGS.

The recent introduction of these wells to public notice has not only afforded a valuable remedy by which the sufferings of a large class of the visitors to Harrogate may be more effectually mitigated, than by the use of any of the numerous collection already to be found there; but at the same time an agreeable place of resort will be gained when seclusion is also necessary, or exercise can be induced or enhanced by scenes of rural beauty.

Their situation is in Harlow Carr, one of those small but picturesque valleys that intersect this part of the country; upwards of a mile from the Brunswick hotel, and beyond the

tower, on the road from Harrogate to Otley. A small rivulet runs not far from the wells, and afterwards contributes, in a series of pools and bubbling falls, in its rocky passage through the woods, to produce a pleasing and effective variety in this secluded sylvan retreat.

There are several springs, both of sulphur and chalybeate water, in the grounds; but three only of the former, and one of the latter quality, are used at present.

A suite of ten baths, either for hot or cold water, with two shower baths, have also been provided in a detached building near the wells, each side having a waiting room and every other requisite convenience.

THE BATHS.

The benefit of an external application of the waters was perceived, and the absence of the means lamented, by Dr. Dean, in his tract of 1626. Dr. Neale—the great patron of Harrogate—introduced warm sulphuretted baths, “and procured one such vessel for a pattern as are used, beyond sea, for that purpose.” To this primæval provision—the purgatory of which Smollet amusingly records in “Humphrey Clinker”—the inhabitants were content to subject their patrons, until the late Mr. Williams had the spirit to construct the Victoria Public Baths, which were superseded in 1870 by a large and elegant suite of baths erected at the cost of the Harrogate Improvement Commissioners, which far surpass, in comfort and elegance, anything hitherto seen in the north of England.

Two years afterwards, Mr. Thackwray fitted up the Montpelier Public Baths; and by their luxurious and varied accommodation and peculiar adaption for invalids, completed all that this “useful branch of medical hygiene requires.”

The peculiarly mild quality of the Starbeck water has also been made available to those who are deterred from the baths at Low Harrogate, by the erection there, in 1828, of suitable apartments, and the provision of respectable attendants.

And lastly, it may not be irrelevant to remind those who have experienced the remedial effects of these waters, that

their gratitude may not find a more appropriate or beneficial course than by alleviating, through the medium of the Harrogate Bath Hospital, the sufferings of those unfortunate fellow-creatures, for whom Providence has provided a remedy, which their circumstances have not enabled them to apply.

HOTELS.

The accommodation afforded by the several hotels—too well known to need enumeration here—is such as will cause no class of society to regret the appliances and comforts of their own homes. “The Queen” was erected first, and as early as 1687. For those whose constitution or disposition forbids public association, there are several highly respectable boarding houses, and numerous lodging houses.

RECREATION.

An abundance of recreation is afforded to those who visit Harrogate as a periodical relaxation from sedentary pursuits and engrossing avocations. The race course, laid out in 1793, favours equestrian exercise, and, occasionally, the amusement for which it was intended. There are billiard tables in all the principal hotels. I need remind none who remember Harrogate, and retain a soft side of the heart, of the attractive balls that are enjoyed at the Queen, Granby, and Crown hotels; nor, of those excursions, by which many acquaintances that have been acquired there, are, and we hope long will be, renewed and improved.

And, lastly, there is an infinity of amusement at the Tower on Harlow Hill, which though of the altitude of 596 feet above the level of the sea, is easy of ascent. The elevation of the tower to the height of 100 feet gained a bewildering and most imposing panoramic prospect, which can be viewed by the aid of seven mounted telescopes. I have understood from those, whose optical capacities are more fortunate than my own, that the Peak in Derbyshire, and the tower of a church in Hull, may be seen in a clear atmosphere—though the latter is distant sixty miles!

HARROGATE

187

ANALYSES OF THE PRINCIPAL WELLS, BY DR. HOFMANN,
DR. MUSPRATT, AND DR. MILLER.

Analyses by Dr. Hofmann, Dr. Muspratt, and Dr. Miller.	CUBIC INCHES OF THE GASES IN ONE GALLON OF EACH OF THE WATERS.										
	I. Old Well.	II. Montpelier Strong Well.	III. Hospital Strong Sulphur Spring.	IV. Hospital Mild Sulphur Spring.	V. Starbeck Spa.	VI. Harlow Carr Spa.	VII. Montpelier Saline Chalybeate Well.	VIII. Dr. Chalybeate. Muspratt.	IX. Carbonate of Iron Spring.	X. Tewit Well.	XI. John's Well or Old Spa.
Sulphate of Lime	182	594	5166	1215	068	4593 10498	...	...	7965	697	307
Sulphate of Magnesia .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Carbonate of Lime	12365	24182	25560	19794	6960	10498	...	...	341	1435	2264
Fluoride of Calcium	Trace	Trace	Trace	Trace	Trace	Trace	...	...	...	...	...
Chloride of Calcium	81735	61910	11595	336	...	5741	159278	13843	2311	...	...
Chloride of Magnesium	55693	54667	5797	10310	5390	1002	35635	8439	13148	...	...
Carbonate of Magnesia .....	...	...	...	...	...	Trace	41796	Trace	150	2667	3039
Oxide of Manganese .....	...	...	...	...	...	Trace	11383	384	150	1323	...
Chloride of Potassium	64701	5750	10751	24970	...	Trace	...	678	...	1057	...
Carbonate of Potassa .....	...	...	...	...	2207	Trace	...	Trace	...	...	...
Chloride of Barium .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Trace	...	...	...
Chloride of Lithium .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Trace	...	...	...
Chloride of Sodium	866180	803993	369014	220650	121798	1006	66838	20592	11650	280	1543
Bromide of Sodium	Trace	Trace	Trace	Trace	Trace	Trace	Trace	...	...	Trace	?
Iodide of Sodium	Trace	Trace	Trace	Trace	Trace	Trace	Trace	...	...	Trace	...
Sulphate of Sodium	15479	14414	7155	301	1711	2852	...	...	...	...	...
Carbonate of Soda	Trace	Trace	Trace	Trace	Trace	15093	...	...	...	Trace	1338
Ammonia	Trace	Trace	Trace	Trace	Trace	Trace	Trace	...	...	Trace	Trace
CHLORIDE OF IRON	Trace	Trace	Trace	Trace	Trace	Trace	Trace	1449	...	Trace	...
CARBONATE OF IRON	Trace	Trace	1060	Trace	Trace	Trace	2790	1162	6042	1358	609
Carbonate of Manganese	Trace	Trace	Trace	Trace	Trace	Trace	Trace	Trace	...	Trace	Trace
Silica	246	1840	535	149	1753	841	947	Trace	204	1041	Trace
Organic Matter	Trace	Trace	1327	Trace	1740	...	Trace	...	...	663	Trace
TOTAL	1096580	966456	484454	279046	157562	41626	908667	46547	41471	10521	10091
CUBIC INCHES OF THE GASES IN ONE GALLON OF EACH OF THE WATERS.											
Carbonic Acid	2203	1401	954	1020	926	600	2417	2628	779	1185	149
Carbonated Hydrogen	584	53	15	528	515	...	240	...	...	...	15
Sulphuretted Hydrogen	531	54	54	181	Trace	...	...	...	...	...	67
Oxygen .....	...	48	181	181	...	...	51	...	...	40	...
Nitrogen	291	482	1978	587	421	800	648	808	197	553	635
TOTAL	3609	1984	3001	2316	1862	1400	3356	3436	976	1778	2212



BOLTON PRIORY.

Now is there stillness in the vale,
And long unspeaking sorrow,
Wharfe shall be to pitying hearts
A name more sad than Yarrow.

WORDSWORTH'S 'FORCE OF PRAYER.'



DURING the visitor's sojourn at Harrogate, one day, at least, must be spent at Bolton. Its elegant ruins, and its unusually picturesque situation, cannot fail to charm every lover of the beautiful in nature and art.

In the year 1120, William de Meschines and Cecily his wife, the heiress of Robert de Romille, to whom William the Conqueror granted vast possessions in Craven, founded at

Embsay, two miles east of Skipton, a priory for Augustinian canons, to the honour of the Virgin Mary and St. Cuthbert.

After the death of the founders, and in the year 1151, thirty-one years subsequent to the period of the foundation, Alice de Romille, their elder daughter and coheiress, who retained her mother's name of Romille, and before her decease had married William Fitz-Duncan, nephew to David king of Scotland, is said, in an ancient record which formerly belonged to the Priory, to have translated the foundation to Bolton.

There is generally some wild legend connected with the origin of our monastic foundations; and a tradition, that had not passed away in the middle of the seventeenth century, affirmed that this circumstance took place in consequence of the Boy of Egremond, the only surviving son of the second foundress, having been drowned in attempting to cross the Strid, an unusually narrow part of the river Wharfe; and that Bolton was selected as being the nearest eligible site to where the misfortune happened.

The legend cannot, however, be implicitly received; for, when Alice gave the canons her manor of Bolton in exchange for their manors of Skibdun and Stretton, her son William—and in a pedigree, exhibited to parliament in 1315, he is set down as her only son—appears in the charter as a consenting party to the transaction. Dr. Whitaker conjectured, therefore, that it might refer to one of the sons of the first foundress, both of whom died young; but, I think it may be better reconciled with this stubborn piece of evidence by supposing that the manor of Bolton had been exchanged, for the convenience of Alice, before the accident; and that, subsequently, the canons were glad to find a pretext, in her disconsolate lamentation, for descending from the bleak and cheerless heights of Embsay, to the warm and sheltered seclusion of their newly acquired possession.

But, whatever may have been the truth of this dim and faded story, we should rejoice that it lingered long enough to be revived—phœnix-like—from its ashes, in the memorable lays of Rogers and Wordsworth.

After having existed upwards of four hundred years the foundation was surrendered by Richard Moon, the prior, and fourteen of his brethren on the 29th of January, 1540. On the 3rd of April, 1542, the site, with many of the possessions of the house, were granted to Henry Clifford, first earl of Cumberland, but nineteen days before his death, for the sum of 2490*l.*, "a consideration less than ten years purchase, upon the low rental of that place." From him they have descended to the present noble owner, the duke of Devonshire.

"The ruins of this celebrated Priory stand upon a beautiful curvature of the Wharfe, sufficiently elevated to protect it from inundation, and low enough for every purpose of picturesque effect;" in which respect, the competent judgment of Whitaker has pronounced that "it has no equal among the northern houses—perhaps not in the kingdom." Its site is so shut in by rising ground and embosomed in trees, that the visitor, who has come from Harrogate, across the wilds of Knaresborough forest, may not be aware that he is approaching it, until he is almost on the spot.

The bridge retains no vestige of that structure which was built, or rebuilt in 1314; but the following quaint inscription may yet be seen graven on an oaken beam in a cottage at the south-west angle that most likely occupies its site.

Thow yat passys by pis way one aue maria here yow say.

There is a pleasant footpath from the bridge, across this fertile plain, to the abbey; but strangers generally proceed a few hundred yards further down the road, and enter the abbey close by an opening in the boundary wall.

BOLTON HALL.

The ancient gateway of the Priory is nearly opposite the west front of the church; and is a substantial work of the Perpendicular era, not irrespective of defence. As it had not been erected very long before the dissolution of the house, the arches were closed, and it was soon after fitted up as an occasional place of retirement for the Cliffords; or as a residence

for one of their stewards. It has been enlarged by the duke of Devonshire, who retires here during the shooting season.

HISTORICAL NOTICE OF THE PRIORY.

The shell of the priory church remains entire, and the nave is still used as a parochial chapel. It exhibits all the styles of architecture that prevailed from the period of its foundation to its dissolution; and some in a degree of excellence that has not often been surpassed. The choir was evidently the first work of the canons, after, or more probably a little prior to, their translation; and from thence the work proceeded westward, a considerable time having elapsed, if we may judge from the progressive character that is exhibited, before they brought it to a conclusion.

The domestic buildings were probably built simultaneously with the choir, and nearly contemporary with the completion of the church, might be the erection of the chapter-house, and the introduction of the sedilia in the choir.

But the canons were not long content with the structure of their church. We are not directly informed at what period they resumed operations; but as the *Compotus* of the House from 1290 to 1325, contains no payments on that account, we have this strong confirmation of existing architectural evidence, that it was soon after the latter period, that the old Norman choir was deemed incompatible with the condition of their House, and a new structure, exhibiting the more airy effect and elegant forms of the Decorated style, was substituted on its foundation. Nearly the whole of the choir was rebuilt at this period. The south transept was also then, apparently, renewed from the foundation; and ramified windows introduced into the opposite member of the cross aisle. So great, indeed, was their disposition for improvement, that they rebuilt the aisle of the nave, and added a parapet and battlements to the Early English clerestory above.

After the lapse of nearly two centuries, the spirit of renovation again moved the House: and while Richard Moon—

a native of the adjacent village of Hazlewood—was prior. In 1520, he began to erect a tower at the west end of the church, after a florid and ambitious design; but the days of monachism were numbered, and the rude hands of Henry were laid upon him, ere the work had proceeded above the roof of the nave.

SURVEY OF THE PRIORY.

The first part of the abbey which attracts the notice of a stranger is this tower. The west front exhibits great ability of design; but, in the inside the detail of the arch communicating with the nave is certainly unsatisfactory, particularly in the mouldings, which are of very insufficient projection. The arms of Clifford and of the Priory, *gules, a cross patonce*, derived from those of the Earls of Albemarle, the ancient lords of Skipton, are introduced in the spandrils of the doorway. The mouldings of the niches above, after making the heads, expand into the resemblance of embattled turrets—thus betraying a tendency, in the decoration of the work at least, to the cinque-cento vitiations. A frieze above contains this inscription:

In the yer of ovr lord mxcxx R. — began the fondachon on
qwhō sowl god haue merce. amen.

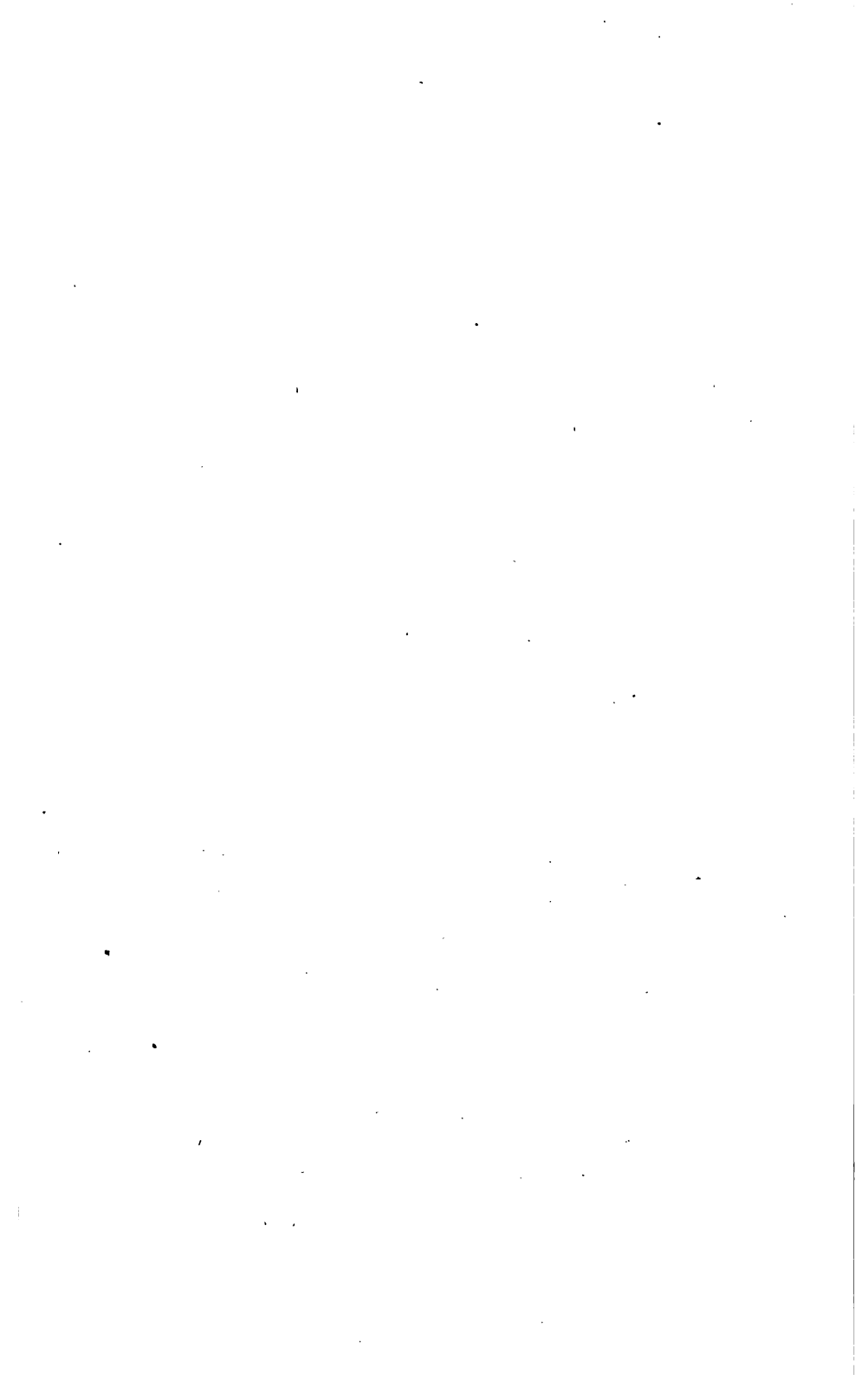
The west front of the great aisle of the nave exhibits a deeply recessed doorway, surmounted by three lancet lights with banded shafts; and, as well as that of the north aisle, is enriched with a series of arcades, true to the still lingering spirit of old Lombard works; but detailed, of course, in the Early-English style.

The south side of the nave is earlier than the north: the latter being Decorated and the former Early-English. At its western end, we see indications of the roof and wall of the Dormitory; and of the Store-houses, or whatever might be the building below. From the angle of junction of these buildings with the nave, its south side is decorated with an arcade of pointed arches on cylindrical shafts—exhibiting a good example of the transition from the Norman to the Early-English style.

On viewing the interior, it will be found that the six fine lancet lights of this side of the church occupy the space of



BOLTON PRIORY, FROM THE NORTH EAST.



three opposite arches, and are made by two shallow pilasters into three corresponding compartments. These coupled lights—the first approach to a ramified window—are divided in height by a plain and original transom. These windows are filled with Munich glass, put in under the direction of Mr. Crace at a cost of £3000. In a series of 36 groups they depict the history of our Lord, beginning with the Annunciation at the east and ending with the Ascension at the west. The general tone of the glass in each light is purposely varied although the design is uniform. Whatever may be the faults and failings of English artists in glass, and they are not a few, no benefit will certainly be derived by the study of contemporaneous art as here exhibited. The triforium, or gallery from the Dormitory of the canons to the church, crossed the base of these windows; the passage still remaining by which they entered and left the wall. The height of these windows is necessitated by the cloister walk which ran along the exterior.

The opposite side of the Nave is divided from its aisle by one cylindrical column placed between two of octagonal form. Above these, are four single and plain lancet lights based on a semi-cylindrical string course. On the outside, they are not divided by buttresses, but connected by a dog-toothed string course passing over the heads, with an elegant and characteristic foliated boss at the point of springing.

THE AISLE OF THE NAVE has been renewed from the ground in the Decorated period, and is economically rather than unskilfully plain. It has three windows, with elegant tracery, a deeply moulded doorway being introduced towards the west end, surmounted by a trefoil-headed arch.

The western window has had its three main lights filled in with modern glass by Clayton and Bell, depicting the Stoning of Stephen, the burning of S. Polycarp, and the martyrdom of S. Ignatius by lions. The foliation of the old glass has been judiciously carried out.

The space of one intercolumniation, at the east end of this aisle, is enclosed by an original Perpendicular wooden lattice, except that part which joins the pier of the tower, where there

is a low wall. This was a CHANTRY CHAPEL, founded, no doubt, soon after the translation of the house, by one of its chief benefactors, the Mauleverers of Beamsley; and retains its character by the piscina—a plain semicircular-headed recess, of which the basin has been partially destroyed. At the east end is the vault of the Claphams of Beamsley, who, according to tradition, were interred there upright.

“ Pass, pass who will, yon chantry door,
And, through the chink in the fractured floor
Look down, and see a griesly sight;
A Vault where the bodies are buried upright!
There face by face, and hand by hand,
The Claphams and Mauleverers stand;
And, in his place among son and sire,
Is John de Clapham, that fierce Esquire,
A valiant man, and a man of dread
In the ruthless wars of the White and Red;
Who dragged Earl Pembroke from Banbury Church,
And smote off his head on the stones of the porch.”

Though some have doubted this statement, and declared that no such sight could be seen, I have been assured by a survivor of the Clapham family that, on the occasion of some needful repairs to “the fractured floor,” the “griesly sight” was fully displayed. It was further stated that there were nineteen coffins, the wood of many being much decayed, but the lead remaining sound, and, in one case, measuring 6 feet 10 in. long.

When the nave was retained as a place of worship, a wall was raised under the arch by which it communicated with the central tower, and two Perpendicular windows were inserted in it. The upper part, which was merely of lath and plaster, was completed by Mr. Carr, the late amiable and respected incumbent of Bolton; who after a faithful discharge of his duty for 54 years, died in 1843, and rests immediately below, among scenes and objects he had loved in life, and tended and appreciated so well.

Some years ago the nave was restored by Crace; but later still, elegant oak stalls, suitable arrangements at the east end, encaustic tiles on the floor, a new pulpit and font, and other necessities for public worship, were furnished under the judicious

direction of Mr. Street. Like Lanercost priory, it is now a commodious and well appointed church ; and devout worshippers once more enter, with thanksgiving and prayer, into this ancient temple.

We must now leave the nave, and, in the usual routine, pass to the CENTRAL TOWER. This structure may, originally, have been raised to the height of one of its squares, above the roofs ; but the arches alone now remain. They are of unequal width : that of the choir being 28 ft. and very obtuse ; that of the transept but 18 ft., and, consequently, elegant and acute.

It is probable, from the progressive character exhibited in the tower, that the SOUTH TRANSEPT was built before the other. It is now totally rased, except the western wall, which retains two very beautiful Decorated windows, and a doorway of like character leading to the cloister court. When this transept was cleared of rubbish, several years ago, the floor of plain tiles was found nearly perfect, but partially depressed by the lapse of the graves ; and, towards the north-west corner, a curious but worn sepulchral memorial of gritstone. It bears a rudely incised figure of an Augustinian monk, with his hands joined in the attitude of prayer, and this brief record :

Þic facit d'n's Xpofer Mod quo'd'm Þ'or.

By which the tenant of this lonely tomb is identified as Christopher Wood, the eighteenth prior of the house, who, according to Dr. Burton, resigned his office on the 10th of July, 1483.

THE NORTH TRANSEPT is perfect, except the eastern wall of the aisle, which is entirely demolished. It is divided from this part by two chamfered arches, resting on an octagonal pillar, with a boldly moulded capital. Except this work, and perhaps the inner half of the other walls, the whole transept may have been rebuilt in the Decorated period. At all events, a large ramified window was then inserted in the north wall ; two in the west ; and two with ungraceful triangular heads, but very good tracery, over the arches on the east side.

The side aisle, which was divided from the transept by a wooden lattice as high as the capital of the column, communi-

cates with the choir by its original, plain, and semicircular arch ; and near its side remains an equally uninteresting PISCINA—a mere round-headed recess, like those in the nave.

THE CHOIR.—Except a portion of the interior of the lateral walls, and fragments attached to the piers of the tower, this interesting part of the structure displays that elegant design and execution which has vindicated the Decorated style, as the perfection of Gothic architecture. It has neither aisles nor triforium, but each side is occupied by five tall lights, all now, but one, divested of their exquisite tracery. In the east window a few fine flowing fragments still cling to the arch.

The internal effect of the choir is considerably improved, if not in classical, certainly in picturesque effect, by an arcade of semicircular but intersecting arches, which are continued, from its junction with the aisles of the transept, to the steps of the altar. They are in two tiers—the western series of nine arches, on each side, being elevated a little above the other. To amend the irregularity, as well as to harmonise this decoration—which the rebuilders in the fourteenth century took some pains to retain,—with the general effect of the choir, these skilful and ingenious men inserted a bold and flowing trefoil cornice, above the lower range, which brought it level with the base mouldings of their windows and the crown of the upper arcade. The mouldings of the archivolt are of good character, as well as the capitals of the shafts, which are ingeniously diversified.

Beyond this arcade, in the north wall, is an arched RECESS not quite 9 inches deep, 9 ft. 6 in. in height and width, and flanked by two panelled shafts. It is difficult to say whether this work, which was respected by the rebuilders of the choir, though rude and ungeometrical in the curvature of the arch, has been originally intended for a tomb for the Paschal play of the Resurrection, or for a real interment. It may, indeed, ultimately have served both these purposes ; for the plinth, which is continued round the back from the bases of the shafts, retains traces of grout-work, which has been superinduced on it to the height of 2 ft. 6 in., if not half up the recess.

Whitaker says a skeleton was once found beneath the arch, and part of a filleting of brass, with the Lombardic letters NEVI; from which he presumed it might belong to Lady Margaret Neville, whose funeral is mentioned in the compotus of 1318.

Not far from hence is laid the corner of a blue marble SLAB, which is also said to have been found in the rubbish near the arch; and which, with less risk, may be considered to be a fragment of the tomb of John Lord Clifford, K.G., who was slain at Meux 10 Henry V., and, according to the Chronicle of Kirkstall, was brought home and interred at Bolton.

In their usual position on the south side, are the remains of four SEDILIA and a PISCINA of Early-English character, much mutilated; though, when Johnston saw them in 1670, they remained in tolerable perfection. The number of sedilia is unusual, being generally either three or five. The brutality of their destroyer has left little more than the semi-sexagonal bases of the stalls, which are of common grit-stone, enriched with a trefoil panel, enclosed in a triangle, alternately reversed. A small portion of three of the niches alone is left, though sufficient to shew that the work has been covered with armorial shields, placed in a perpendicular series, double on the back, but single on the sides; the intermediate space being adorned with the rose, that was introduced in the stalls of the chapter-house. As the relief is very slight, the charges of the few remaining shields are totally obliterated. The description of what Johnston observed is recorded in the history of Craven; but it seems to afford no decisive evidence as to the period of their erection, unless the appearance of the shield of Castile and Leon is required to carry back the style beyond the close of the thirteenth century.

On the south side of the choir were two CHAPELS, which extended half its length, and were coeval with its original construction. As the roofs rested on corbels placed in the wall of the church, the portion of it below was suffered to remain when the choir was rebuilt; though, from the appearance of the angle of the adjoining transept, the outer wall of the chapel was then renewed. The appropriation of the western chapel,

which has been entered from the transept, is forgotten. The other has, unquestionably, been "the resting-place of the Lords of Skipton, and patrons of Bolton." It communicates with the choir by a doorway, rebuilt together with it, and a wide contiguous arch, which, having been left in a rude state at its original erection, was then also decorated in the inner surface with elegant blank tracery; and made to harmonize further with the character of the choir, by the addition, on that side, of a triangular canopy, of which the outline and finial remain. Under the arch, I doubt not, was laid the effigy, now entirely lost, of "the Lady Romille," which Johnston saw in 1670; and, in the similar recess in the wall below, I feel equally confident, were deposited the venerated remains of that great patroness of the house, when called to her everlasting reward.

We shall now complete our survey of the ruins most effectually, by turning to the QUADRANGULAR COURT, of which the boundary on the north side is marked by the wall of the nave. On the west, was a range of lofty buildings, the lower apartment being, I presume, the store-house; the upper, the dormitory of the canons, as it is generally found in such a situation. Of the refectory, on the south, so much only remains as to shew that it has been a spacious apartment, and from its shallow buttresses, coeval with the translation of the house. At its eastern end, has been a wide passage leading to a much larger court behind; around which, and about the site of the present minister's house, were ranged the kitchen, to the west; some unappropriated offices, to the south; and a long chamber, not improbably the guests' hall, to the east. Still beyond this court, is a small detached building, now used as a school-house, and proved, by the flat and shallow buttresses, to have been of an age little inferior to the refoundation.

The east side of the cloister-court is formed by the transept of the church, and at its southern extremity is the passage leading to the chapter house. The entrance from the cloister was rebuilt in the Decorated period, but the arch alone remains—a bold and conspicuous object, mantled with ivy, and emulating nature in the foliated capitals of its columns. There is an

exquisite glimpse, through it, of the waterfall above the river in one direction, and of Bolton hall in the other.

The site of the CHAPTER HOUSE has been discovered only within recollection ; but, having been torn down nearly to the foundation, is even yet sought in vain, by many an unpractised eye. It was an octagonal building of about 30 ft. in diameter, and 12 ft. in each internal face—that on the west being entirely voided by the passage. There have been, apparently, five stalls on each side, resting on a base of quatrefoils, and ornamented, at each angle, with three roses of exactly similar character to those exhibited in the sedilia of the choir.

On the south side of the chapter house passage, are foundations supposed to have been those of the prior's lodge. Another demolished structure at its south-east angle, is considered to have been his chapel. Still eastward of the chapter house, are swelling mounds, indicative of an enclosure ; and, of two buildings, which Whitaker thought might have been the priory mill. If the site had been more propitious, I could have believed them to have been the lodgings of the prior.

But we may not linger here ; for the banks and braes of Wharfe now begin to develope their attractions, and the summer's sun will set ere one half of them can be enjoyed.

Yet, hard and unenviable is the heart that turns away from Bolton Church-yard, without a sigh for Emily Norton—

“ Exalted Emily,
Maid of the blasted family ”—

or glances not at the track up the woods and o'er the fell, by which the memorable White Doe of Rylstone, after the death of her gentle mistress, sought this hallowed sanctuary, each sabbath morning, and returned again on the dispersion of the congregation.

After some charming views of the Priory, particularly one including the curvature of the Wharf, made familiar by pictorial illustration, the path sinks to the bed of the valley and enters the woods.

Although visitors are permitted to ramble at pleasure through the woods, except on Sunday, when ingress is strictly prohibited,

the great diversity of paths renders it advisable that they should be accompanied by a guide, without whose direction many interesting points of view must pass unobserved.

"About half a mile above Bolton the valley closes, and on either side the Wharfe is overhung by deep and solemn woods, from which huge perpendicular masses of gritstone jut out at intervals." For awhile, the river sweeps on in majestic undulations, exasperated by rocks and swelled by a tributary stream bursting from a woody glen. Then for a few moments it reposes by a delicious and verdant holm; lingering noiselessly in the shade of luxuriant trees, whose slanting boughs stoop to kiss its bosom.

At length, its subdued and solemn roar, "like the voice of the angry spirit of the waters" disturbs the deep solitude of the woods, and announces the tremendous STRID, which suddenly greets the eye struggling and foaming in the narrow trench of the rock, through which the whole of the impetuous torrent is poured "with a rapidity proportioned to its confinement."

Hither, says the shadowy tradition, which for seven centuries has invested this awful spot with a mysterious interest, came the Boy of Egremond, ranging the woods of Barden with his greyhounds and huntsman; and attempted to cross the gulph—then as yet, called the Strid or Stride.

"He sprang in glee,—for what cared he
That the river was strong, and the rocks were steep?—
But the greyhound in the leash hung back,
And checked him in his leap.
The Boy is in the arms of Wharf,
And strangled by a merciless force;
For never more was young Romilly seen
Till he rose a lifeless corse."

The forester hastened back to Lady Alice, and, with despair in his countenance, intimated misfortune by the significant enquiry, "What is good for a bootless beane?" by which we may understand, What remains when prayer is unavailing? Yet it was enough; for the presentiment of the anxious mother instantly rejoined, "Endless sorrow!" and, on being assured that such was her lot, she vowed that many a poor man's

son should be her heir, and then, as the tradition runs, became the second foundress of Bolton. The language of this question, which has now become all but unintelligible, proves the antiquity of the story, which is the next thing to establishing its truth; and alas, on how many a bright and beautiful hope and dream of earth have its dark words since intruded!

After all, "no one can stand long by it, without feeling a sense of its power and savage grandeur grow upon him;" and many, inspirited by its majestic tone, may feel that it is a place "how tempting to bestride." But its real contraction, which I am told is 4 ft. 5 in., deceives the eye; and there is the greater danger that, in the confusion of insecurity, the attrition of the rocks may betray the bounding step, which, like many another erring but needless act, can never more be recalled.

The contraction of the rock extends about sixty yards; and, "being incapable of receiving the winter floods, has formed on either side a broad strand of naked gritstone, full of rock basins or pots of the lin, which bear witness to the impetuosity of so many northern torrents."

By following the main path—sometimes skirting, sometimes rising high above the river bank—you wind up the curvature of the valley, and at a sheltered bower called Pembroke Seat, instinctively halt to contemplate the glorious prospect of the torrent sweeping in an "horned flood" far down before you, from the old tower of Barden, shrouded in ancient woods and backed by the purple distance of Thorpe fell.

Beyond this point, the excursion of those whose time is limited is seldom protracted, but no true lover of nature, or of those associations of by-gone days by which it is enhanced, should refrain, undismayed by the apparent distance, from passing on through the park, to BARDEN TOWER. It is indeed but a plain Tudor house, enlarged or rebuilt by Henry Clifford, "the Shepherd Lord," from one of the Lodges by which the ancient Chace of Barden was protected; but the scenery around is so exquisitely beautiful—the air of primæval simplicity so pure and refreshing—and the profound seclusion and tranquillity so congenial to the sympathies of the imagination and of the

heart, that it needed neither the association of the virtues, or of the fame of its founder, nor the lays of him by whom they have been sung so worthily and well, to invest its crumbling walls with another and an indestructible enchantment.

The tower was repaired in 1658, by Lady Pembroke, after it had been in ruins about seventy years, but it is abandoned once more to desolation. The chapel, a small and coeval building, attached to the adjoining farm house, is still preserved, and served by the minister of Bolton.

After you have passed the tower and reached the high road, turn aside down the footpath to Gill-beck fall—a mountain stream dashing down a precipice of forty feet to meet the Wharfe—but return to the picturesque old bridge, to be greeted by the broad sylvan-bounded stream, and Greenhow-hill rising in the distance.

At the foot of the bridge it will be well to pass to the opposite side of the river by which you came, and then along the holm; not forgetting often to turn and catch the varying glimpses of Barden, nestling in its dense sylvan repose.

For the gratification which follows, every lover of beauty must be grateful to Mr. Carr, who, "working," as Wordsworth has said, "with an invisible hand of art in the very spirit of nature," guided the path along the hill-side, and "laid open the more interesting points, by judicious thinnings in the woods." From one of these stations, there is a lovely view of the river, towards Barden, and, a little further on, another in the opposite direction, towards the Strid, where the extreme contraction of the valley, at that interesting point, may be very definitely observed. At length we are brought immediately above the raging torrent, and, while the eye rises from the depth and luxuriance of the valley, to the green knolls and dreary fells swelling beyond, the ear is charmed by that hoarse roar of "the angry spirit of the waters," that, for unnumbered ages, has never been subdued or stilled.

Before the Laund House, on the site of one of the lodges of Barden, it is worth while to turn aside to an "unwedgable and gnarled oak" that may have successively sheltered Romillè

and Albemarle, Clifford, and Boyle. It is 25 feet 4 inches in girth, at 4 feet 6 inches from the ground, for the tortuosity of the trunk prevents its measurement lower.

It needs no persuasion to allure the most careless step towards Posforth-gill—a woody glen that now branches from the vale of Wharfe, implying in its antiquated name the character of its lively stream. Far down below our path, we are accompanied by the rich deep umber-coloured but sparkling and translucent beck, sometimes eddying in deep shady pools, then with renewed force bursting forth and tossing down its rocky bed, fringed and canopied by the mountain ashes that sometimes fill the bosom of the gill with their elegant and graceful luxuriance. After an enchanting prospect down the glen, to which it will be hard to say farewell, the path declines towards “the Valley of Desolation,” and crosses Posforth-beck in front of its finest fall, where it is poured in two main streams from the height of 54 feet, with a force that dashes up the spray more than 15 yards. It then ascends the upper or high park, and continues outside the pale—a judicious arrangement, by which the repetition of Posforth-gill, however intrinsically interesting, is avoided, and you gain, from the superior elevation, views of the fells on the opposite side of Wharfedale. After crossing an angle of the lower park, you regain the woody banks of the Wharfe, where you can have the last and not least interesting view of Barden; and, on descending to the holm, pass over the wooden bridge to the path by which you set out.

If you did not approach the priory by the path through the fields, you may return by that way, to see the PRIORY BARN, which is still occupied; and as a singular specimen of ancient carpentry, deserves attentive examination. But, if that should be no attraction, then, at least, climb the Holm Terrace to enjoy the last and most delicious prospect of the lovely scene from which you are now quickly departing; and to stand—

—— not only with the sense
Of present pleasure, but with pleasing thoughts
That in that moment there is life and food
For future years.



APPENDIX.

DURING the time which has elapsed since the printing of the sheets relating to the Cathedral, some alterations have occurred which may be briefly noticed here.

THE NAVE.

THE FONT, presented by the Honorary Canons, and placed under the north-west tower, has been removed.

In 1872 a new GROINED OAK CEILING was bestowed on the nave, vaulted from the perpendicular shafts which supported the recent flat roof. It is constructed on the model of the roofs in the transepts of York Cathedral, and possesses the advantage of being, in the opinion of Sir G. G. Scott, on the same plan as the builders of the present nave intended to adopt. It is to be regretted that, owing to lack of funds, the exterior roof could not be raised to its original elevation; and this rendered the insertion of the vaulted ceiling to its present pitch somewhat difficult—there being only five inches space between the two roofs. The task has been accomplished by the construction of the intermediate rib in the form of a scarf folding joint.

The ceiling is ornamented with bosses at the intersection of the ribs, finely carved into the semblance of flowers, &c. Along the centre beam are bosses bearing sacred emblems and armorial bearings; and viewing them in order from the west they thus appear:—foliage; arms of Dr. McNeile, dean of Ripon; XPC; three stars of five rays, the arms assigned to St. Wilfrid; angel and scroll—St. Matthew; the winged lion—St. Mark; Agnus Dei—the device on the ancient Chapter Seal; Maltese cross; pelican in her piety—emblem of Christ giving his blood for his people; the winged ox—St. Luke; the eagle—St. John;

cross keys—arms of the See of York; IHC; the arms of the See of Ripon impaling Bickersteth; foliage.

THE LIBRARY.

The present library was, in the first instance, the chapel of the Blessed Virgin, called, from its situation above the chapter house, the Lady-loft. The former collection of books, dating from the time of St. Wilfrid himself, was wholly dispersed at the Reformation, shortly before which time Leland saw in the vestry a Life of St. Wilfrid by Peter of Blois, now lost. A bequest towards the building of a certain library in Ripon minster is mentioned in the Chapter Act-book under the year 1466, and it seems not unlikely that the western part of the Lady-loft was partitioned off for the library from the time of its erection in the latter part of the fifteenth century. It is reached by a flight of stone steps from the south transept, and also by a modern winding stair of wood from the chapel to the east of the chapter house. The original south wall of the choir, with its windows, buttresses, gurgoyles, and cornice, forms its north side, and it is well lighted by large square-headed windows of simple character. The recesses for the piscina and aumbry remain in their usual situation. The monument of Dean Higgin, who began the present collection by bequeathing his own books, may be seen in a sadly mutilated state, over the modern fire-place. The inscription is also gone, but a copy of part of it has been preserved.

ANTONIO HIGGIN,
 DECANO RIPONENSI DIGNISSIMO,
 ECCLESIAE DIGHTONENSIS
 PASTORI VIGILANTISSIMO CUSTODI
 HOSPITALIS WELLENSIS FIDELISSIMO VIRO
 DOCTRINÆ SINGULARIS, VITÆQUE INTEGERRIMÆ
 RICHARDUS HUTTON, MILES
 POSUIT — — — — —

All the book-cases are quite new, and those on the north side are carried round the projecting buttresses above mentioned.

Very few books seem to have been added to those bequeathed by Dean Higgin until quite recently, though many have totally

perished from damp and neglect, while many which remain shew the effects of various destructive agencies. In 1735 the chapter exchanged a MS. volume containing seven distinct treatises of great interest for some printed books, as appears from the following memorandum in Dean Dering's note-book.

"1735.—Mem. There are among my books Those ye E. of Oxford gave us for a Manuscript, viz., Mabillon de re Diplomatica, Montfaucon Palæographia Græca, Demosthenis Opera, Usher's Annals, 2 vols., and Wharton's Anglia Sacra, 2 vol."

It is now in the Harleian collection, and is described in the Catalogue of MSS., No. 2370.

In a list which remains in Dean Higgin's own writing, are some important entries of books that have now disappeared, including *Breviarium secundum stilum Angliæ in pergameno Manuscr.*; *Rosarium Manuscr. pergam.*; *Missale Eboracense* (twice in catalogue: there is only one left); *Missale imperfectum*; *Portiforium Sarisburiense*.

Considerable interest in the library seems to have been revived, for a time, by the visit of Dibdin, so amusingly described in the *Decameron*, 1817, iii., 419, when he discovered the Caxton's *Boetius* and *Book for Travellers*. These precious volumes were then bound by Lewis, in morocco, in the best style of the period, and many more old books were put into more or less costly bindings.

In Dean Goode's time the chapter made considerable additions of well-chosen new and old books of permanent value. In 1868 the library of the late Rev. Edw. Feilde, of Harrogate, came to the library by bequest, adding a large number of books calculated to be useful in the diocese. In 1872 the whole collection was arranged by the Rev. J. T. Fowler, F.S.A., Librarian to the University of Durham, who wrote an account at the time in the *Yorkshire Archæological Journal*, vol. ii., p. 371, to which we refer the reader for further particulars.

During the present year (1874) a most valuable gift has been made by the Marquess of Ripon, of the unique MS. volume known as the Ripon Psalter. It contains the psalter and hymns, with calendar, etc., according to the Use of York,

but what gives it special interest in connection with Ripon is that it has an Appendix containing the lections, responses, antiphons, etc., for the services on the three Festivals of St. Wilfrid, one of which, that of his Nativity, is shewn by this book to have been kept on the first Sunday after Lammas Day, in the church and parish of Ripon, thus accounting for "Wilfrid Sunday," the origin of which has hitherto been merely guessed at. There are only very few of the lections that correspond with those in the York Breviary, or with any known life of St. Wilfrid, and it is thought that they may possibly be many of them from the lost life by Peter of Blois, who was a canon of Ripon, sometime about A.D. 1170. The date of the MS. is 1418. The old covers having been lost the volume has been newly bound by Andrews and Co., of Durham, who have made a handsome case for it, and are most carefully repairing, at the expense of the chapter, all the original bindings that require attention. Some of these are very beautiful specimens of stamped leather, and there is one fine pair of embroidered covers.

In addition to the Ripon Psalter and the Caxtons above mentioned, there may be selected from Mr. Fowler's list, for special mention, a MS. Bible in Latin, with illuminated capitals; a York Calendar from a large MS. Breviary; York Missal (1517); Manual (1509); Processional (no date); Hermann's "Simple and Religious Consultation" (1548); and a Common Prayer of June, 1549.

PLAN OF FOUNTAINS ABBEY.

On examining the plan inserted at p. 114, some discrepancy will be found to exist between the designation of some of the buildings in the table of reference and that given in the text for the same parts of the fabric, and it therefore becomes necessary to explain, that it is only since the text was printed that the plan has received the final corrections of Mr. Edmund Sharpe, M.A., F.R.I.B.A., who, at the request of the Yorkshire Archæological and Topographical Association, has now revised the plan prepared by Mr. Walbran, so as to make

it accord with the views at which he has now, to his own satisfaction, arrived. Mr. Sharpe, for forty years, has given special attention to the whole subject of Cistercian abbeys, and was the first to notice the absolute uniformity of plan observable in all such abbeys as are of early date, and trace that important fact to its source in the regulations of the order. It has therefore been felt to be of greater importance to take advantage of his large experience, than to avoid the slight confusion which the want of correspondence between the plan and the text may possibly cause, and these observations are appended in order that such confusion may be, as far as possible, dispelled.

In the text, at page 103, it will be seen that the long apartment U on the plan is spoken of as the west cloisters, with the monks' dormitory over, while in the plan the same two apartments are referred to as the *DOMUS CONVERSORUM*. It is only recently that Mr. Sharpe has finally selected this as the proper designation for the building indicated, and he will, no doubt, in due course, give good and ample reasons for his having done so. There are, however, certain intrinsic reasons in favour of the probability of his theory, which may be very shortly stated. The *conversi*, though a distinct body from the monks, were undoubtedly inmates that must have been provided for in the arrangements of the earliest houses, and this position in the house accords with the greater freedom which their more secular employment rendered necessary, and with the observance of a rule which placed them at the west end of the church, to which special access, both from dormitory and ground story, is there provided.

The monks being thus displaced, as it were, from their position, are, in Mr. Sharpe's arrangement, relegated entirely to the greater and more complete seclusion of the cloister court, to which alone he considers the term "cloisters" to be applicable. This is quite in harmony with the strictly ascetic rules under which the monks had to live; and, in placing their dormitory over the fraternity, or frater house, and the buildings intervening between it and the southern gable of the transept, a provision is made for them strictly in accordance with the performance of

those known duties which night and day might require the presence of some of them at the east end of the church.

The above remarks are sufficient, it is hoped, to explain to the reader the discrepancy above mentioned. It may be well to call attention also to a subject not mentioned in the text at all, or incidental to the plan, viz., the traces which still exist, in the present buildings on the east side of the cloister court, of those earlier and simpler buildings, coeval with the church itself, for which the present loftier and more important ones have been substituted. These traces can be better detected by an observant eye than by any letterpress description; and this reference to them will, it is thought, be found sufficient to attract due attention to them.



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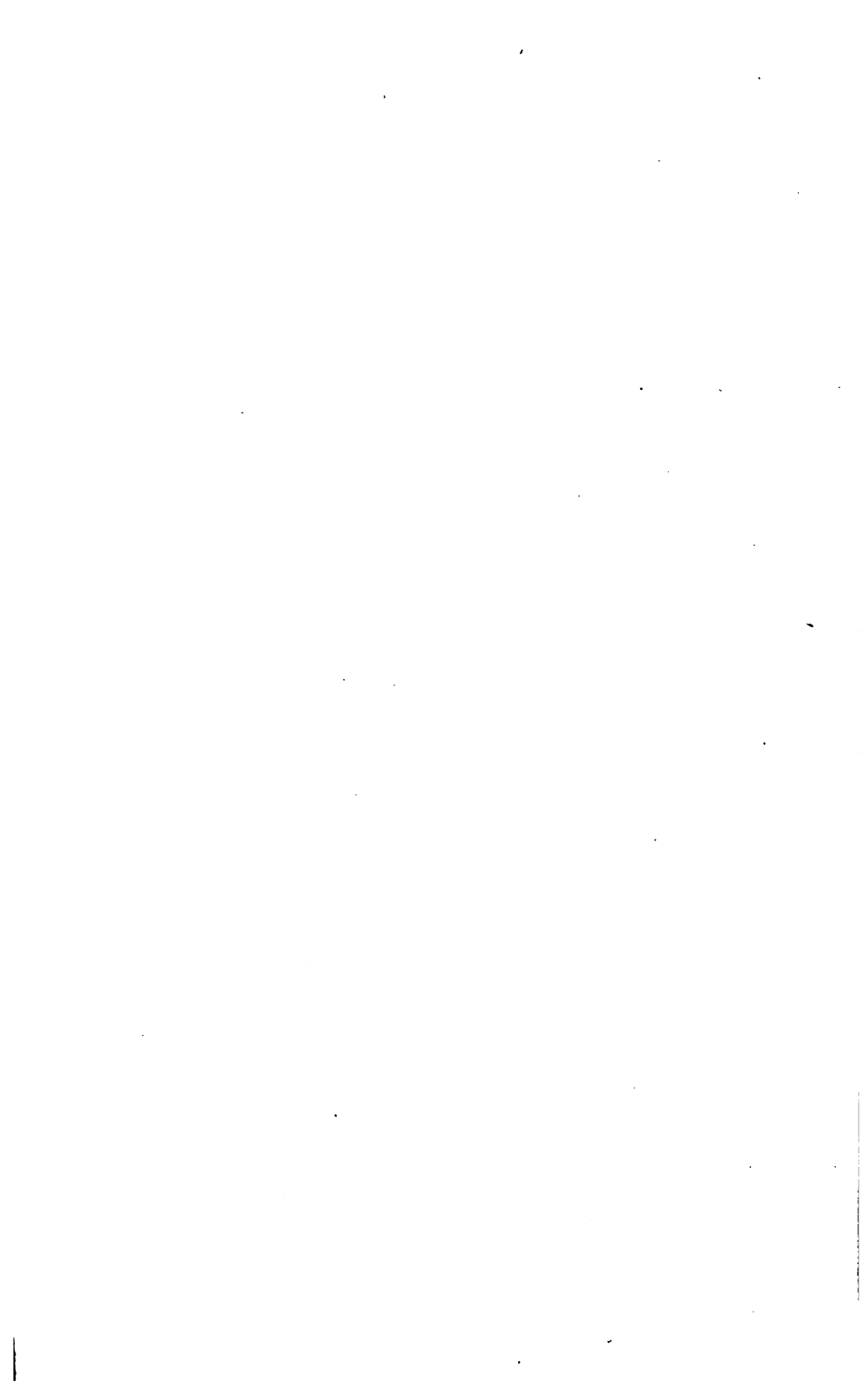
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